

B E W A R E — T A L E S O F H O R R O R

ISSUE 10

CHILLING

Tales



MARK
of the
BEAST

THE MARK ^{of the} BEAST

EAST OF SUEZ, SOME HOLD, THE DIRECT CONTROL OF PROVIDENCE CEASES; MAN BEING THERE HANDED OVER TO THE GODS AND DEVILS OF ASIA. MY FRIENDS FLEETE AND STRICKLAND CAN VOUCH FOR IT-- AND SO CAN THAT HIDEOUS LEPER, THE SERVANT OF HANUMAN, THE MONKEY-GOD, THE SILVER MAN WHO TRIED TO AVENGE "THE MARK OF THE BEAST."



IT ALL BEGAN AT THE ANNUAL REUNION WE HELD AT THE CLUB WHEN FLEETE GOT INEXCUSABLY DRUNK...

I SAY, STRICKLAND, I THINK WE'D BETTER FORM A GUARD OF DISHONOR TO GET OLD FLEETE HOME. HE'S HAD ENOUGH.

AYE, LAD. HE'S BEEN AWAY TOO LONG. LIFE HERE IN RANGOON SEEMS TO BE TOO MUCH FOR HIM.

ALL RIGHT, OLD BOY. LET'S BE ON OUR WAY.

SURE--LE'SH GO.

EASY NOW.



OUR WAY HOME LAY THROUGH THE BAZAAR CLOSE TO THE TEMPLE OF HANUMAN, THE MONKEY-GOD. AS WE PASSED IT...

FLEETE! COME BACK!

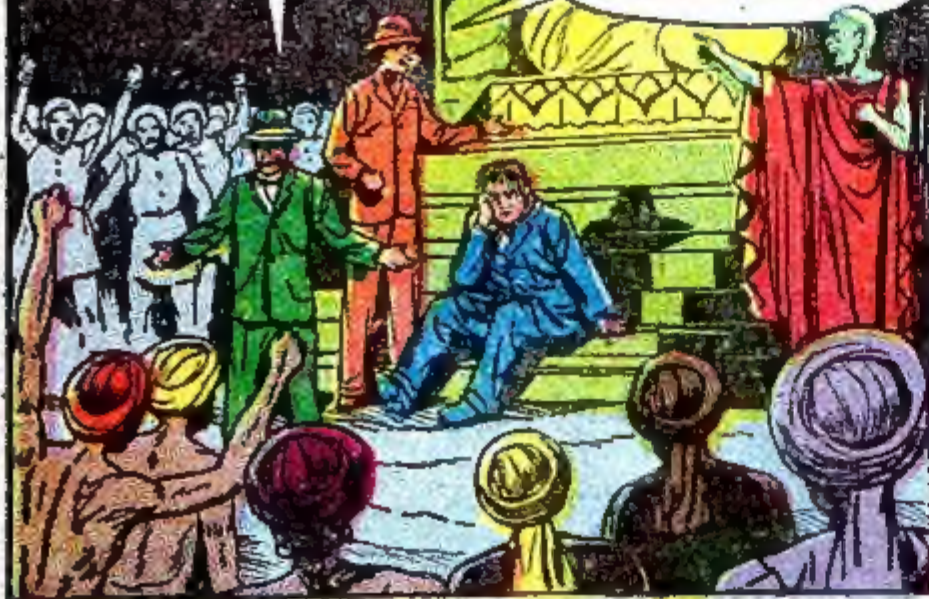
MY OLD---HIC---
FRIEND.



FLEETE SAT HIMSELF DOWN IN FRONT OF THE IDOL AND REFUSED TO MOVE. WE TRIED TO APOLOGIZE TO THE ANGRY PRIESTS....

WE'RE AWFULLY SORRY ABOUT
THIS...IT COULDN'T BE HELPED.

AN ACCIDENT.
PLEASE ACCEPT OUR
HUMBLE APOLOGIES.



BEFORE WE COULD STOP HIM THE AWFUL LEPER HAD THROWN HIS ARMS AROUND FLEETE AND PRESSED HIS HEAD AGAINST HIS BREAST..

LEAVE HIM
ALONE!

KEEP AWAY
FROM HIM.



SHEE THAT? MARK OF THE B-BEASHT! I MADE IT. ISHN'T IT FINE?

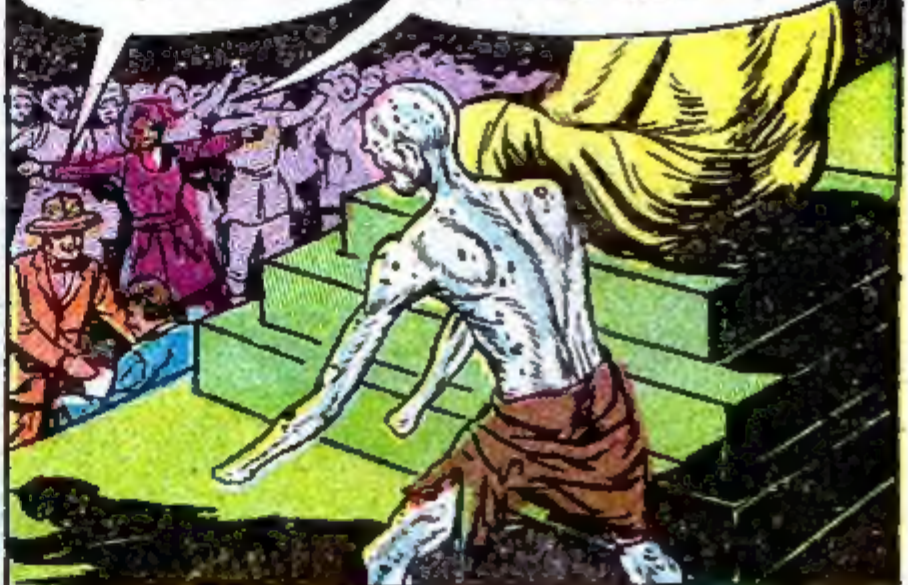
STOP, FLEETE! YOU
CAN'T DO THAT!



SUDDENLY, FROM BEHIND THE IDOL THERE STEPPED A HIDEOUS LEPER, CALLED BY THE NATIVES 'SILVER MAN' BECAUSE OF THE DEAD WHITENESS OF HIS FLESH...

GET UP, FLEETE!
COME ON!

SILVER MAN! THE
SILVER MAN!



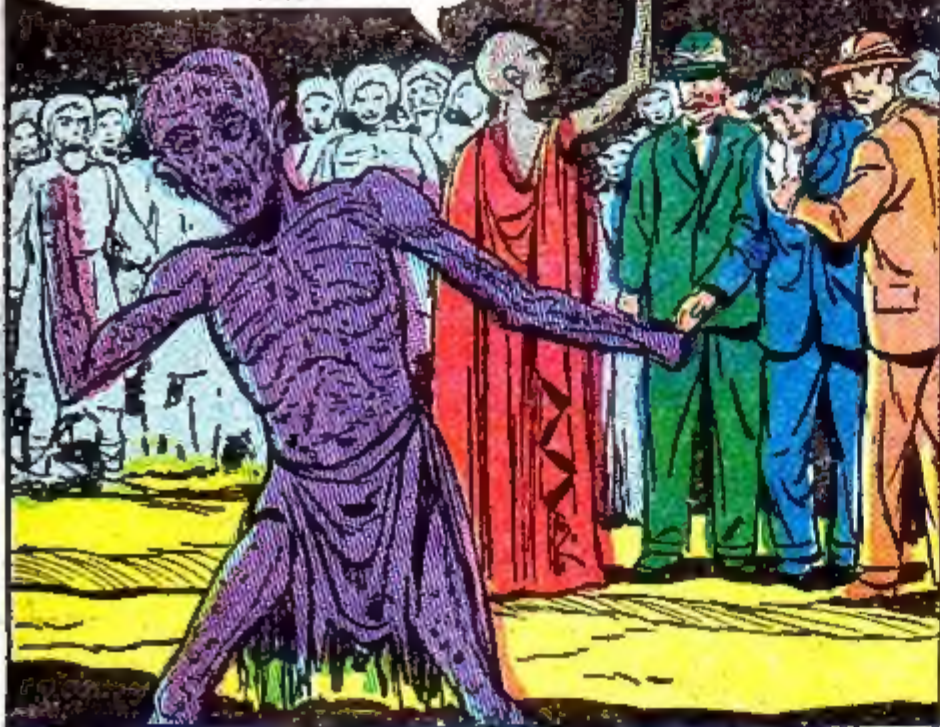
LET'S GET HIM OUT
OF HERE!

HOW? THE CROWD
HAS US HEMMED IN.

SILENCE!



TAKE YOUR FRIEND AWAY. HE HAS DONE WITH *HANUMAN*. BUT *HANUMAN* HAS NOT DONE WITH *HIM*!



LET'S GO!

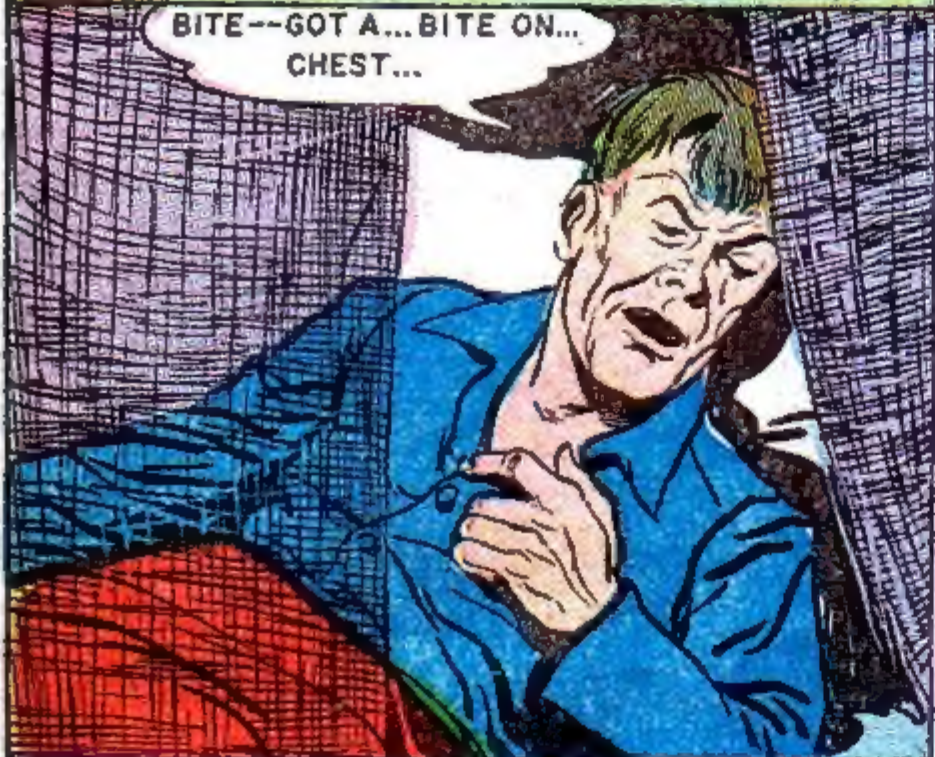
WHY DO THEY ALLOW SLAUGHTER-HOUSES SO NEAR THIS BAZAAR. CAN'T YOU SMELL THE BLOOD?

YOU'RE DRUNK. COME ON.



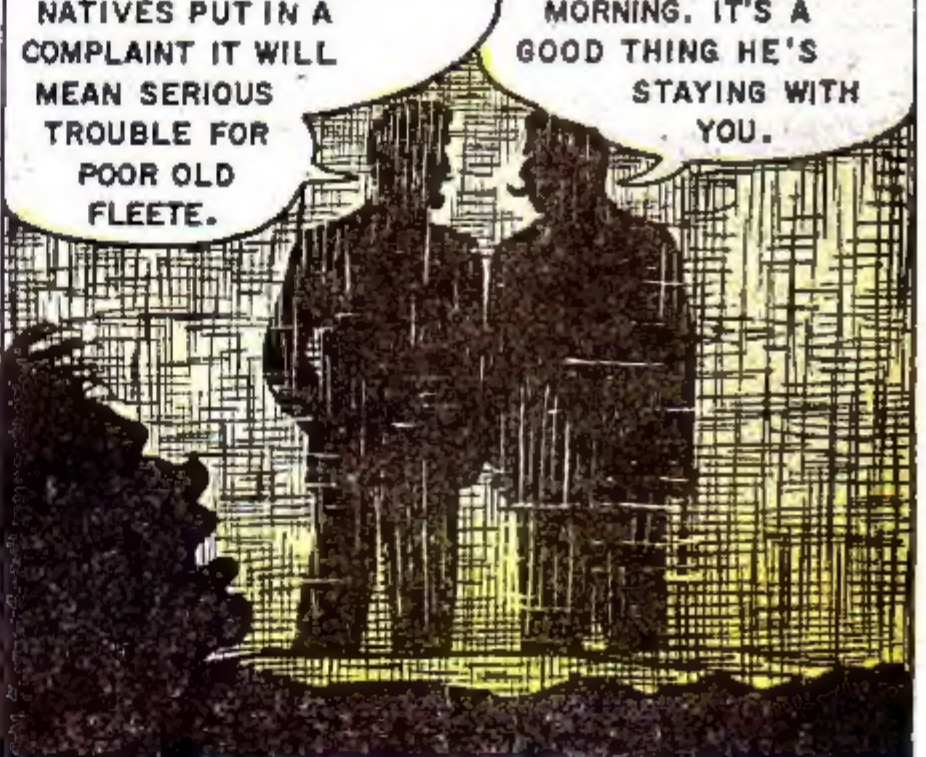
SOMEHOW WE GOT FLEETE TO BED. HE KEPT COMPLAINING ABOUT A BITE...

BITE--GOT A... BITE ON... CHEST...



WE'LL PROBABLY HEAR MORE OF THIS. IF THOSE NATIVES PUT IN A COMPLAINT IT WILL MEAN SERIOUS TROUBLE FOR POOR OLD FLEETE.

NO USE WORRYING. I'LL SEE YOU IN THE MORNING. IT'S A GOOD THING HE'S STAYING WITH YOU.



THE NEXT DAY I RODE OVER TO STRICKLAND'S TO FIND FLEETE ABUSING THE COOK OVER A CHOP...

I SAID RARE. THIS ISN'T RARE. IT'S LIKE SHOE LEATHER.

YES, SAHIB.

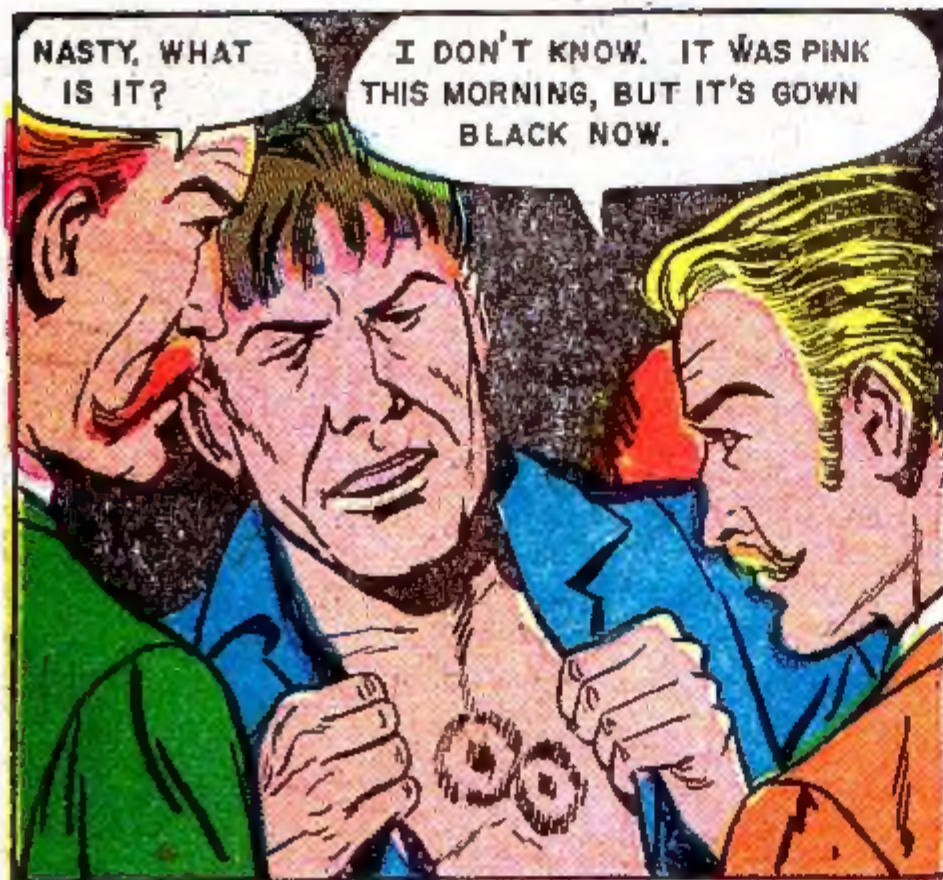


GOOD LORD, MAN, DO YOU WANT IT RAW. A MAN WHO CAN EAT MEAT LIKE THAT AFTER WHAT YOU DRANK LAST NIGHT IS A CURIOSITY.

I'M ALL RIGHT, BUT FOR THAT BITE. YOU BREED QUEER MOSQUITOS HERE. I'VE BEEN BITTEN TO PIECES, BUT ONLY IN ONE PLACE.

LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THAT BITE, FLEETE.





NASTY. WHAT IS IT?

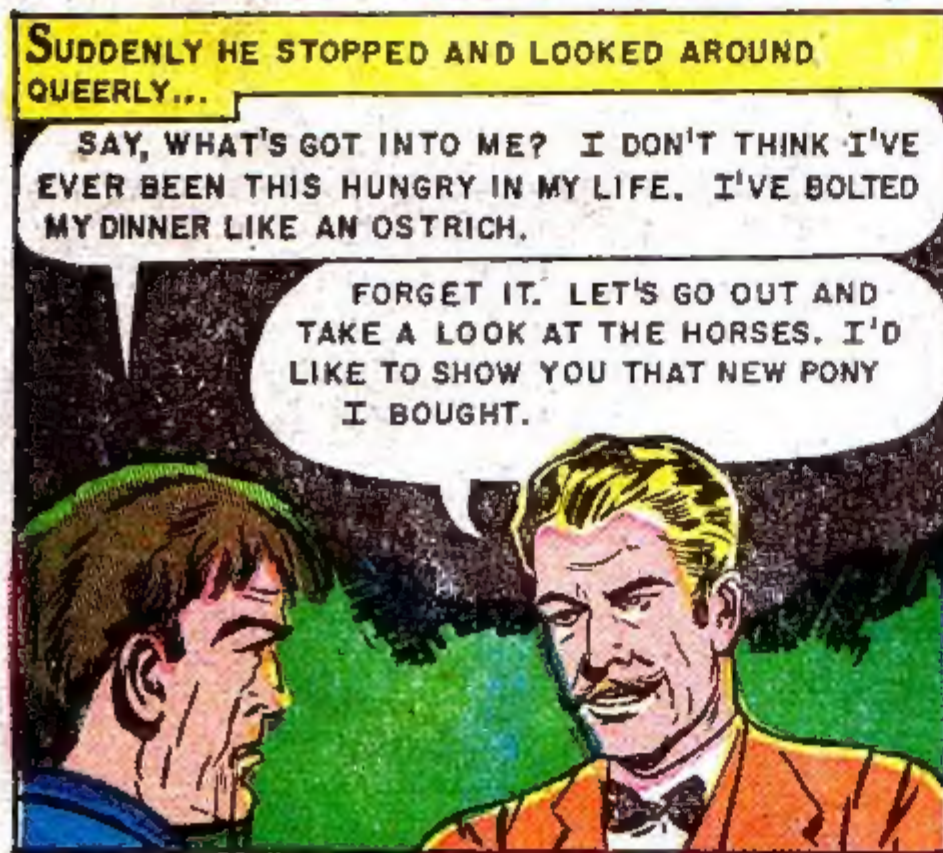
I DON'T KNOW. IT WAS PINK THIS MORNING, BUT IT'S GOWN BLACK NOW.



AT THAT MOMENT THE CHOPS FLEETE HAD ORDERED WERE SERVED, AND HE WENT BACK TO EATING, SNAPPING AT THE FOOD, FOR ALL THE WORLD LIKE A BEAST...

YOU SEEM MIGHTY HUNGRY, FLEETE.

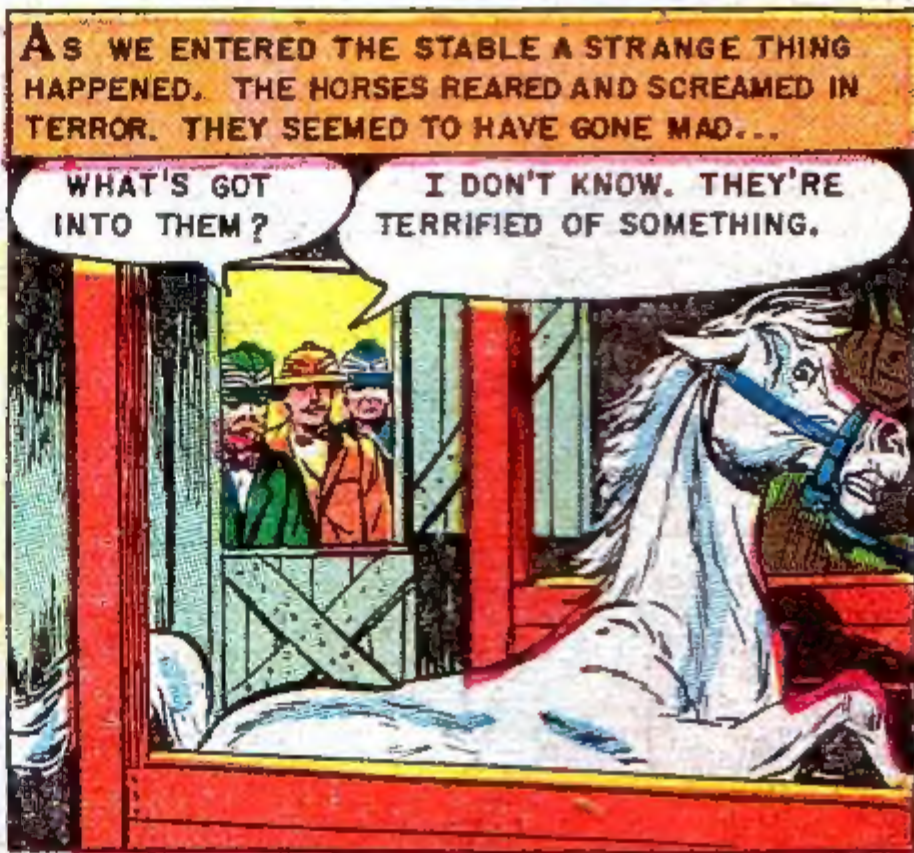
YEAH, YEAH...



SUDDENLY HE STOPPED AND LOOKED AROUND QUEERLY...

SAY, WHAT'S GOT INTO ME? I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER BEEN THIS HUNGRY IN MY LIFE. I'VE BOLTED MY DINNER LIKE AN OSTRICH.

FORGET IT. LET'S GO OUT AND TAKE A LOOK AT THE HORSES. I'D LIKE TO SHOW YOU THAT NEW PONY I BOUGHT.



AS WE ENTERED THE STABLE A STRANGE THING HAPPENED. THE HORSES REARED AND SCREAMED IN TERROR. THEY SEEMED TO HAVE GONE MAD...

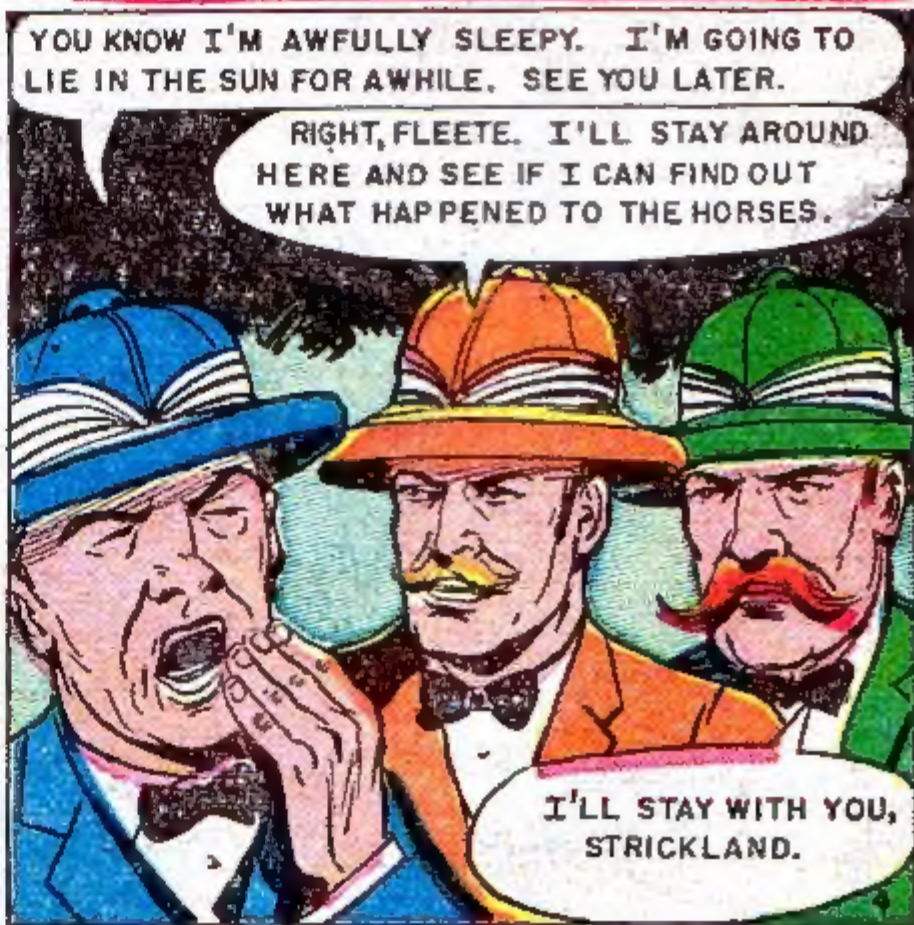
WHAT'S GOT INTO THEM?

I DON'T KNOW. THEY'RE TERRIFIED OF SOMETHING.



WE'D BETTER GET OUT BEFORE THEY BREAK LOOSE. THEY CAN'T BE AFRAID OF US. I'D GIVE THREE MONTHS PAY IF ONE OF THEM COULD TALK.

AYE, SO WOULD I. VERY QUEER.



YOU KNOW I'M AWFULLY SLEEPY. I'M GOING TO LIE IN THE SUN FOR AWHILE. SEE YOU LATER.

RIGHT, FLEETE. I'LL STAY AROUND HERE AND SEE IF I CAN FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HORSES.

I'LL STAY WITH YOU, STRICKLAND.

WHEN FLEETE HAD LEFT...

SAY, DO YOU NOTICE ANYTHING QUEER ABOUT FLEETE?

WELL, HE EATS HIS FOOD LIKE A BEAST, BUT THAT MAY COME OF LIVING IN THE HILLS TOO LONG. MAYBE IT'S THAT BITE...



HMM! I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT I THINK NOW, BUT YOU MUST STAY HERE FOR TONIGHT. WILL YOU?

IF YOU'RE THAT WORRIED, OF COURSE I WILL. BUT I THINK YOU'RE MAKING A FUSS OVER NOTHING.



ODDLY ENOUGH WHEN WE WENT INTO THE STABLE THE HORSES WERE QUIET. WE SADDLED A COUPLE AND RODE THROUGH THE BAZAAR. AS WE PASSED THE TEMPLE...

HE'S NOT ONE OF THE REGULAR PRIESTS OF THE TEMPLE I WISH I COULD PLACE HIM.

AYE, THERE'S SOMETHING EVIL ABOUT HIM.

UNHH... AGGHNNN...

LOOK, THERE'S THAT LEPER. HE GIVES ME THE CREEPS.

ME TOO. COME ON.



IT WAS ALMOST DARK WHEN WE GOT HOME. AS WE APPROACHED THE HOUSE...

GOOD LORD! IT'S FLEETE! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?

THE SMELL OF EARTH IS DELIGHTFUL, I THINK I'M GOING FOR A WALK--- A LONG WALK--- ALL NIGHT..



COME ON, FLEETE, GET UP. YOU'LL CATCH FEVER THERE. COME IN TO DINNER.

LET'S DINE OUT HERE--- MUCH NICER. NOT SO MUCH LIGHT. AND LET'S HAVE SOME MORE CHOPS--- LOTS OF THEM--- UNDER-DONE--- BLOODY ONES WITH GRISTLE!



INSIDE, WITH THE LIGHTS ON, WE GOT AN AWFUL SHOCK WHEN WE GOT A GOOD LOOK AT FLEETE...

THOSE LIGHTS, THEY HURT MY EYES. I'M GOING TO MY ROOM.

ALL RIGHT, OLD MAN. TAKE IT EASY.



THERE'S GOING TO BE TROUBLE TONIGHT--- BIG TROUBLE. I'M WORRIED.

SO AM I!



IT WAS AN HOUR LATER THAT IT HAPPENED. FROM UPSTAIRS CAME THE LONG-DRAWN HOWL OF A WOLF...



WHAT WAS THAT?

IT CAME FROM FLEETE'S ROOM. COME ON!

WE CRASHED INTO THAT ROOM TO FIND A SIGHT OF HORROR THAT WILL REMAIN WITH ME ALWAYS. FLEETE HAD BECOME A *BESTIAL THING*...

FLEETE! COME BACK!

GET HIM!

UKK!
UNGGB!
UKK!



WE'LL HAVE TO TIE HIM UP. GET SOME ROPE, QUICK. I CAN'T HOLD HIM.

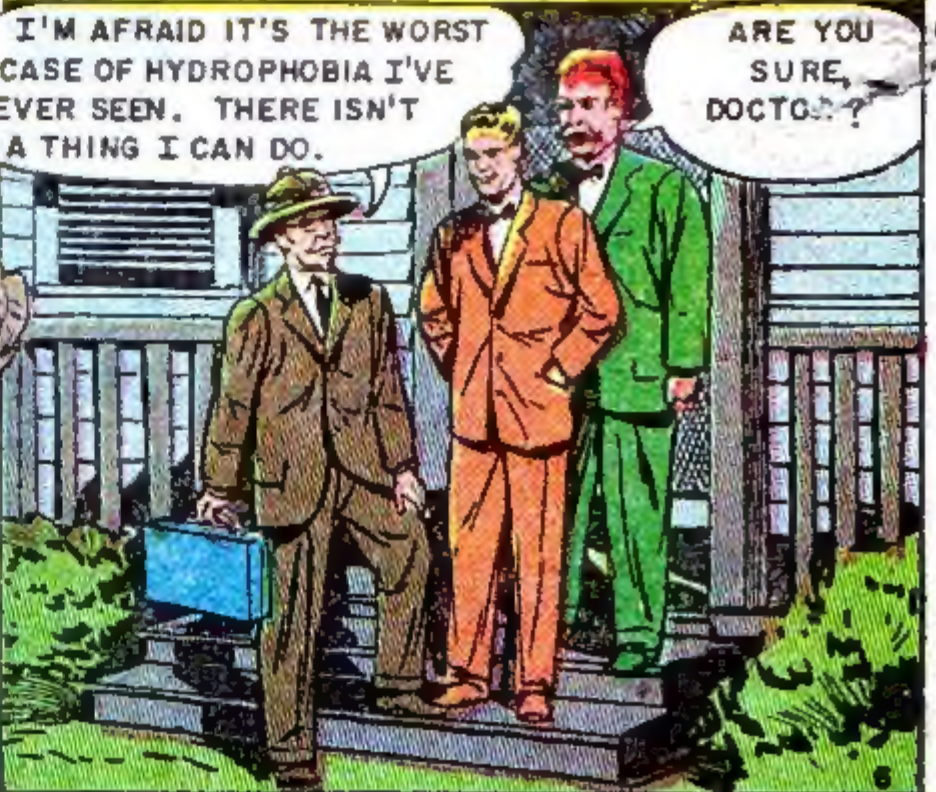
RIGHT!



SOMEHOW WE FINALLY SUBDUED HIM AND SENT FOR THE DOCTOR...

I'M AFRAID IT'S THE WORST CASE OF HYDROPHOBIA I'VE EVER SEEN. THERE ISN'T A THING I CAN DO.

ARE YOU SURE, DOCTOR?



YES. I WOULD STAKE MY REPUTATION ON IT. I'LL SEND A NURSE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



WHEN THE DOCTOR HAD GONE...

THERE'S NOTHING A DOCTOR CAN DO. WE BOTH KNOW THAT!

AYE, BUT IF THE *SILVER MAN* HAS LAID A SPELL ON... LOOK!



THERE WAS THE LEPER DANCING WITH HIS SHADOW AND HOWLING TO THE MOON. AND EACH CRY WAS ANSWERED BY FLEETE...

WE WERE RIGHT! WE'VE GOT TO PUT A STOP TO THIS. WE MUST CATCH HIM.



EEEEOWAAA!



A MOMENT LATER I KNEW WHAT HE MEANT...

SOMEHOW WE FASHIONED A NOOSE AND DRAGGED THE *MONSTROSITY* INTO THE ROOM WHERE FLEETE LAY...

WHAT NOW?

KEEP HIM HERE UNTIL I'M READY FOR HIM.



LET HIM WATCH. LET HIM SEE HOW THEY GROW RED HOT---HOW THEY GLOW!

YOU-YOU'RE NOT...



NOW WE'LL SEE HOW GOOD OUR SPELLS ARE!

UHNNHH!



WHAT HAPPENED THEN IS NOT TO BE PRINTED. IT IS ENOUGH TO SAY THAT AT DAWN THE LEPER DID AS WE WISHED....

WE'VE WON!
WE'VE WON!

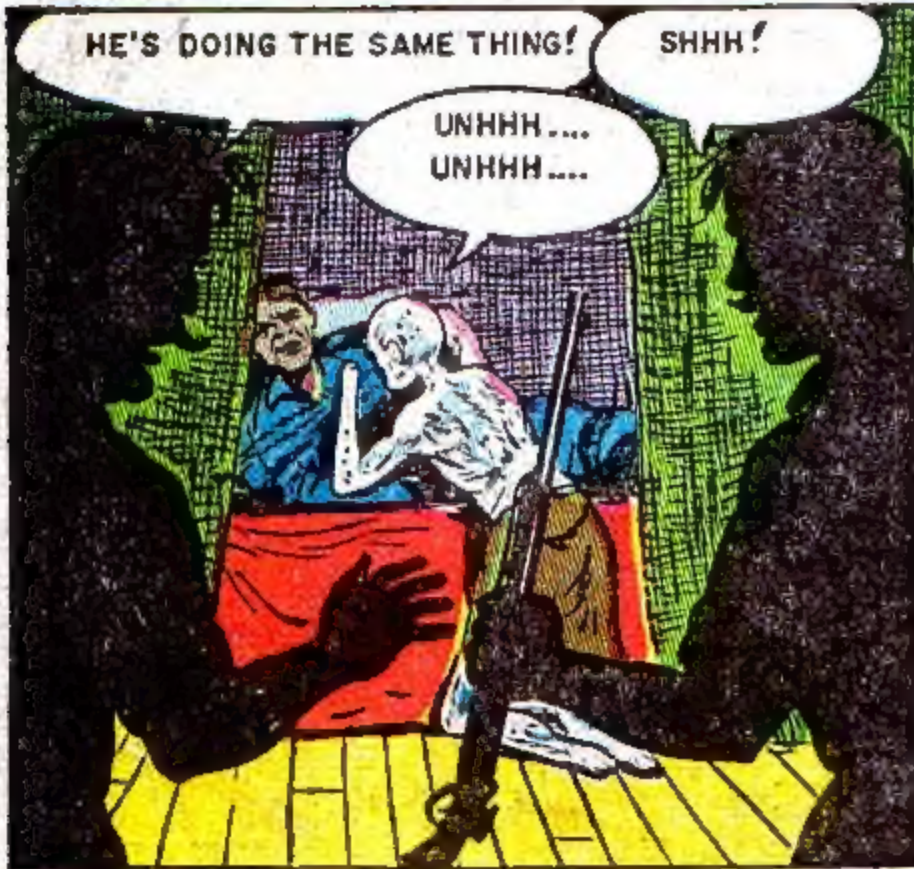
MAY IT PLEASE
GOD YOU ARE RIGHT.



HE'S DOING THE SAME THING!

SHHH!

UNHHH....
UNHHH....



OHHHH....

QUICK, HELP ME
UNTIE HIM.

ARE YOU
SURE?



THEN BEFORE OUR EYES THE FACE OF THE BEAST
FADED...

HE'S BECOMING
HUMAN AGAIN!

HIS EYES ARE THE
EYES OF A MAN! HIS
FACE CLEARS!



AND THEN HE SAT UP...

HELLO, YOU TWO. WHAT HAPPENED? I'M NEVER
GOING TO MIX MY DRINKS AGAIN. I'M
NEARLY DEAD.

YOU DON'T KNOW HOW NEARLY.
YOU'D BETTER LIE DOWN AND
GET SOME SLEEP.

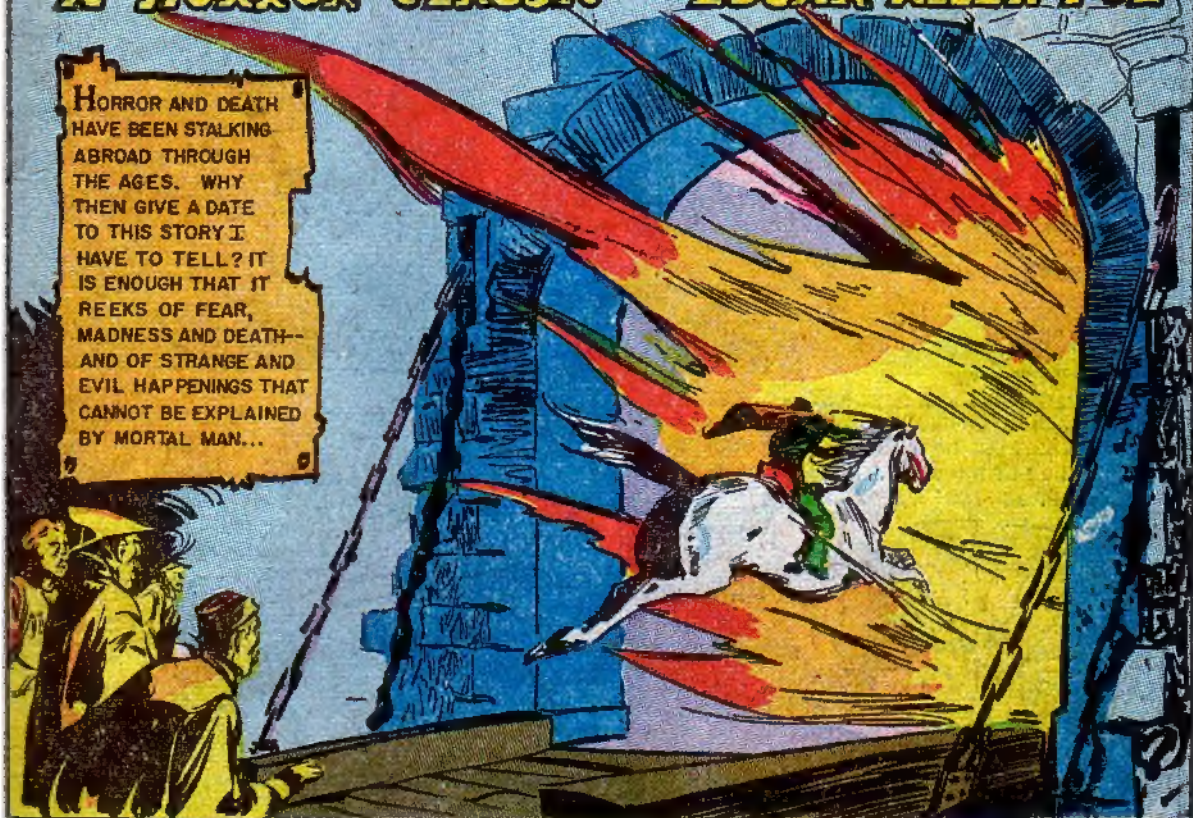


— THE END — 8

THE **CURSE** OF METZENGERSTEIN

A HORROR CLASSIC BY **EDGAR ALLEN POE**

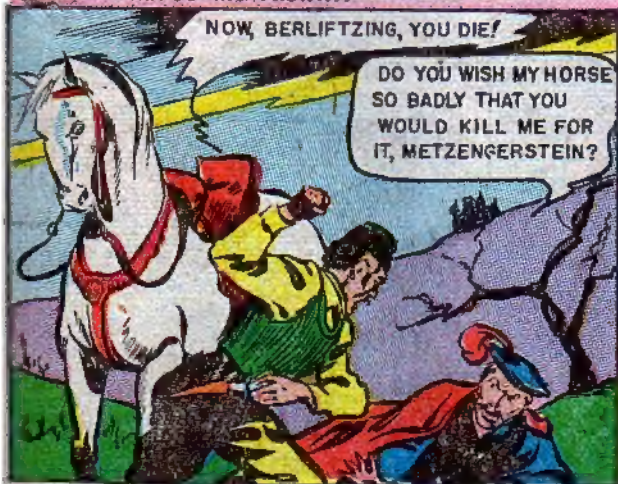
HORROR AND DEATH HAVE BEEN STALKING ABROAD THROUGH THE AGES. WHY THEN GIVE A DATE TO THIS STORY I HAVE TO TELL? IT IS ENOUGH THAT IT REEKS OF FEAR, MADNESS AND DEATH--AND OF STRANGE AND EVIL HAPPENINGS THAT CANNOT BE EXPLAINED BY MORTAL MAN...



MANY HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO IN THE WILD MOUNTAINS OF CARPATHIA DURING A HUNT...

NOW, BERLIFTZING, YOU DIE!

DO YOU WISH MY HORSE SO BADLY THAT YOU WOULD KILL ME FOR IT, METZENGERSTEIN?



PERHAPS! AND PERHAPS I HATE YOU TOO MUCH TO LET YOU LIVE.

THEN, REMEMBER THIS! YOU SHALL HAVE THE HORSE... BUT WITH IT GOES MY EVERLASTING CURSE... IT SHALL BE A STALLION THAT WILL BRING DOOM TO THE HOUSE OF METZENGERSTEIN!

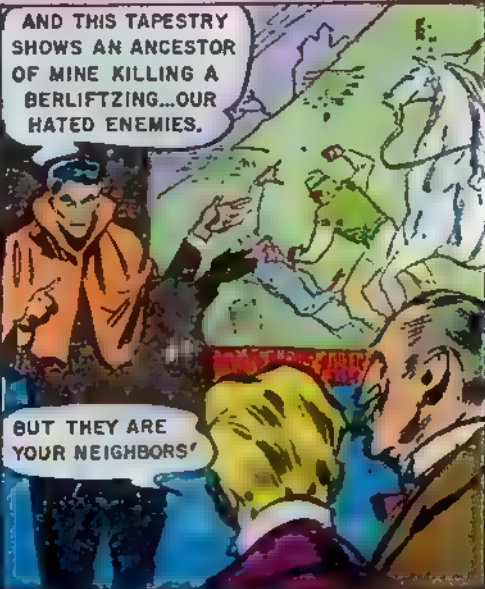




YOUR CURSES DO NOT FRIGHTEN ME! DIE!

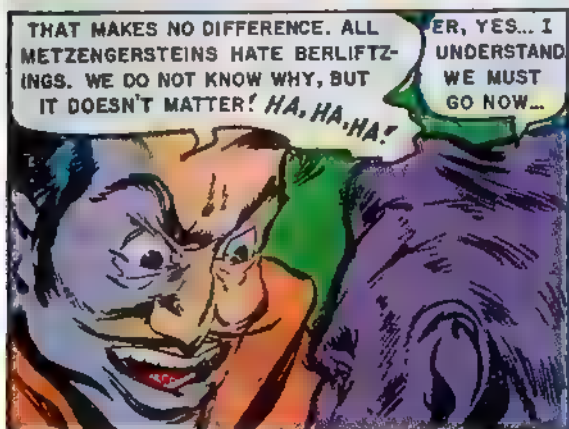
UHHH!

SOME HUNDREDS OF YEARS LATER AS THE NEW BARON FREDERIK OF METZENGERSSTEIN SHOWS SOME FRIENDS HIS CASTLE...



AND THIS TAPESTRY SHOWS AN ANCESTOR OF MINE KILLING A BERLIFTZING...OUR HATED ENEMIES.

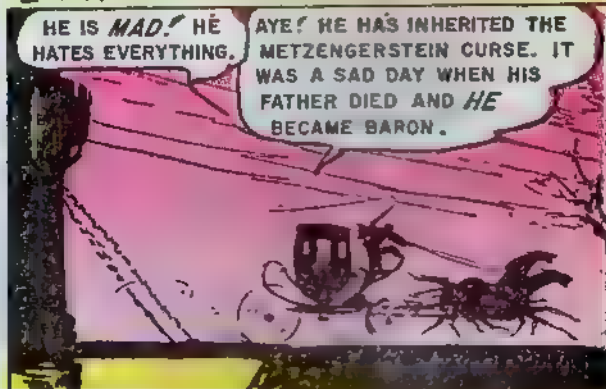
BUT THEY ARE YOUR NEIGHBORS!



THAT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE. ALL METZENGERSSTEINS HATE BERLIFTZINGS. WE DO NOT KNOW WHY, BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER! HA, HA, HA!

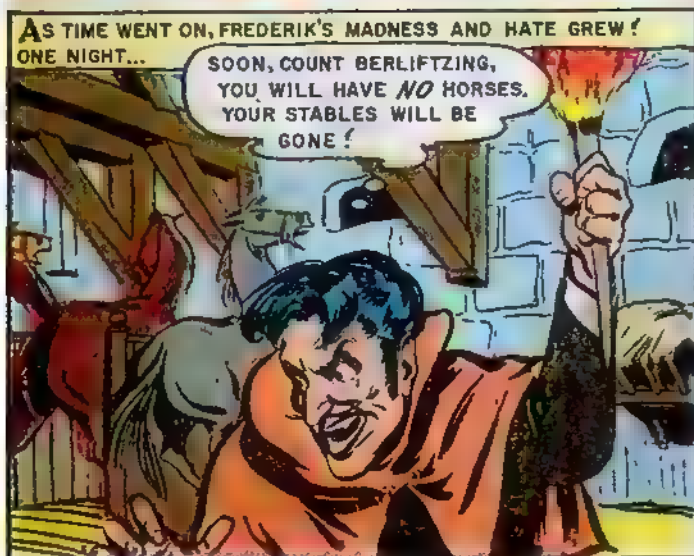
ER, YES... I UNDERSTAND WE MUST GO NOW...

LATER, AS THE TWO LEAVE THE GLOOMY CASTLE...



HE IS MAD! HE HATES EVERYTHING.

AYE! HE HAS INHERITED THE METZENGERSSTEIN CURSE. IT WAS A SAD DAY WHEN HIS FATHER DIED AND HE BECAME BARON.



AS TIME WENT ON, FREDERIK'S MADNESS AND HATE GREW! ONE NIGHT...

SOON, COUNT BERLIFTZING, YOU WILL HAVE NO HORSES. YOUR STABLES WILL BE GONE!



HA, HA, HA! NO BERLIFTZING LIVES WHO CAN CONQUER A METZENGERSSTEIN!

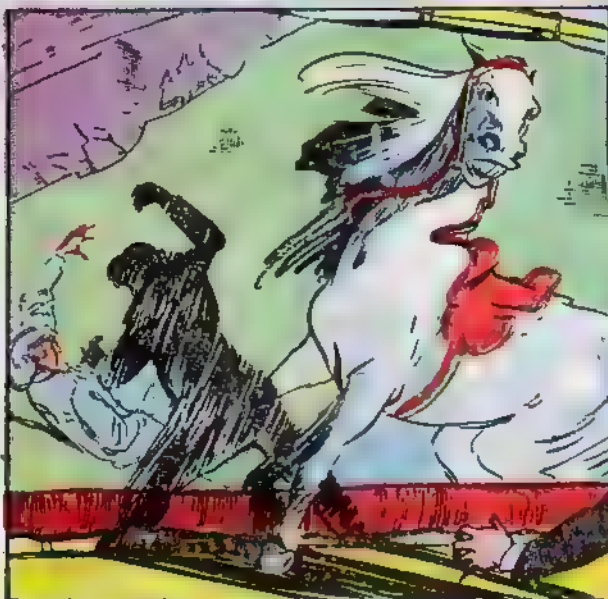
HURRYING BACK TO HIS CASTLE, FREDERIK WATCHES THE FLAMES...

IF THEY BUT KNEW WHOSE HAND HAD PUT THE TORCH TO THEIR STABLES. IF THEY BUT KNEW...



SUDDENLY, *SOMETHING* COMPELS FREDERIK TO TURN AND LOOK AT THE TAPESTRY...

THE HEAD! IT MOVED! IT TURNED TOWARD ME! AHH, THOSE TEETH! THE EYES! EEEAAH!



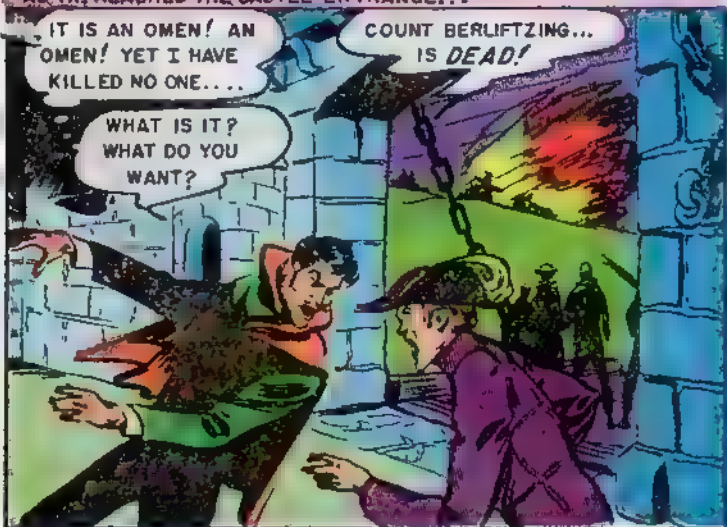
MY-MY SHADOW! IT LOOKS AS IF I WERE KILLING THE MAN IN THE TAPESTRY! AND THE HORSE... IT'S TRYING TO GET AT ME!

SICK WITH TERROR FREDERIK RUNS FROM THE SCENE OF HORROR. AS HE REACHES THE CASTLE ENTRANCE...

IT IS AN OMEN! AN OMEN! YET I HAVE KILLED NO ONE...

COUNT BERLIFTZING... IS DEAD!

WHAT IS IT? WHAT DO YOU WANT?



DEAD, YOU SAY? INDEED! SHOCKING-- SHOCKING.

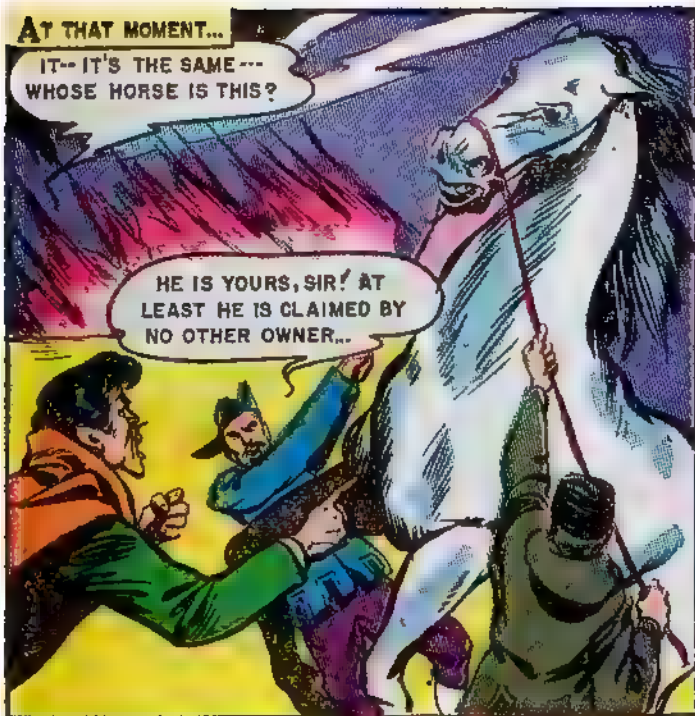
HA HA HA HA HA!



AT THAT MOMENT...

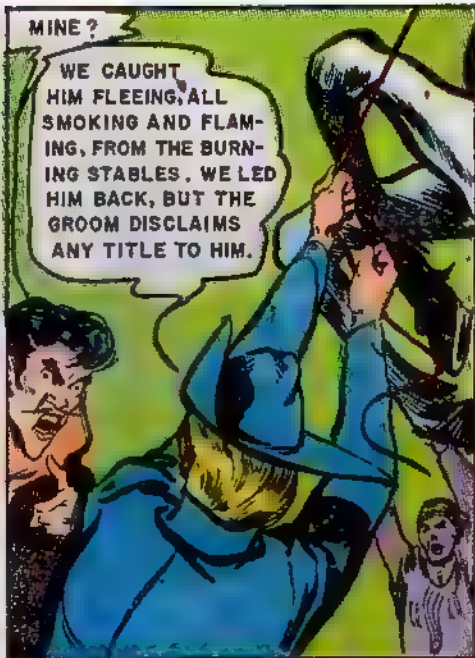
IT-- IT'S THE SAME---
WHOSE HORSE IS THIS?

HE IS YOURS, SIR! AT
LEAST HE IS CLAIMED BY
NO OTHER OWNER...



MINE?

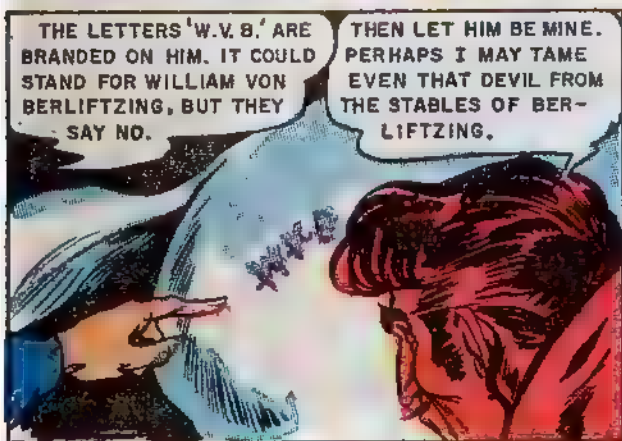
WE CAUGHT
HIM FLEEING, ALL
SMOKING AND FLAM-
ING, FROM THE BURN-
ING STABLES. WE LED
HIM BACK, BUT THE
GROOM DISCLAIMS
ANY TITLE TO HIM.



THEN FREDERIK RECEIVES EVEN MORE
STARTLING NEWS...

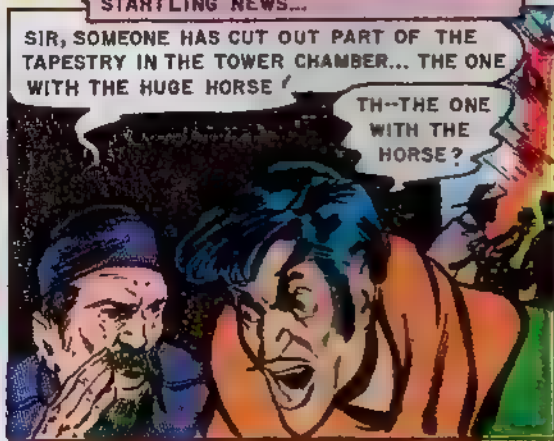
THE LETTERS 'W.V.B.' ARE
BRANDED ON HIM. IT COULD
STAND FOR WILLIAM VON
BERLIFTZING, BUT THEY
SAY NO.

THEN LET HIM BE MINE.
PERHAPS I MAY TAME
EVEN THAT DEVIL FROM
THE STABLES OF BER-
LIFTZING.



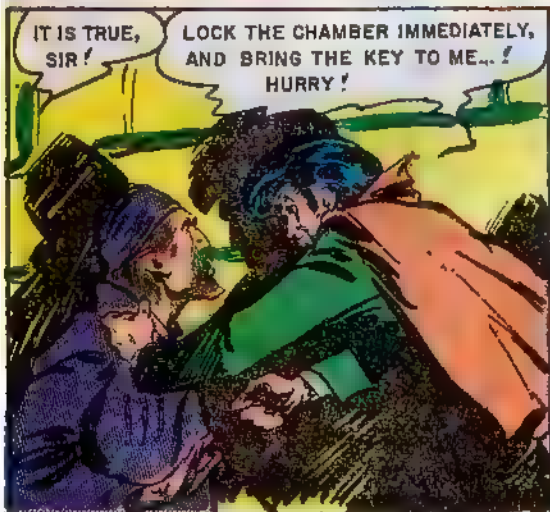
SIR, SOMEONE HAS CUT OUT PART OF THE
TAPESTRY IN THE TOWER CHAMBER... THE ONE
WITH THE HUGE HORSE!

TH--THE ONE
WITH THE
HORSE?



IT IS TRUE,
SIR!

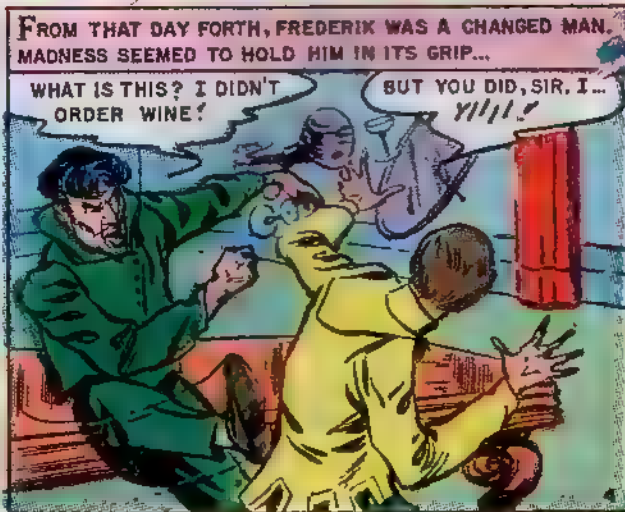
LOCK THE CHAMBER IMMEDIATELY,
AND BRING THE KEY TO ME...!
HURRY!



FROM THAT DAY FORTH, FREDERIK WAS A CHANGED MAN.
MADNESS SEEMED TO HOLD HIM IN ITS GRIP...

WHAT IS THIS? I DIDN'T
ORDER WINE!

BUT YOU DID, SIR, I...
YIIII!



OUTSIDE THE BARON'S ROOM...

HE--HE BEAT ME AGAIN. HE EITHER SITS IN THAT LOCKED ROOM OR RIDES THAT WILD HORSE THEY BROUGHT HIM.

AYE, HIS ATTACHMENT FOR THAT BEAST IS UNNATURAL. I FEAR HE HAS GONE MAD.



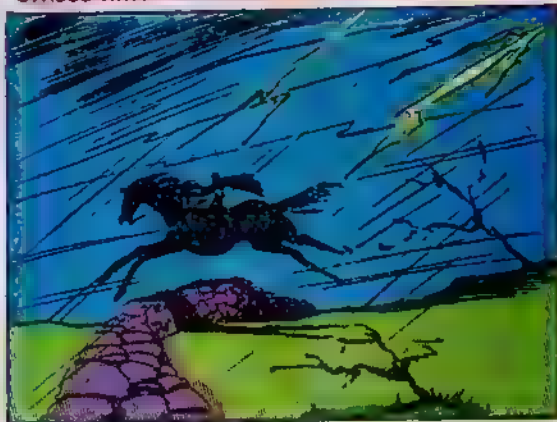
IT IS THE BARON! HE HAS INHERITED THE STREAK OF MADNESS THAT INFESTS ALL METZINGERSTEINS. MAY GOD HELP HIM!



AND SO MATTERS WENT, UNTIL ONE STORMY NIGHT, WHEN FREDERIK WAS SEIZED WITH THE INSANE DESIRE TO RIDE HIS WILD STEED...

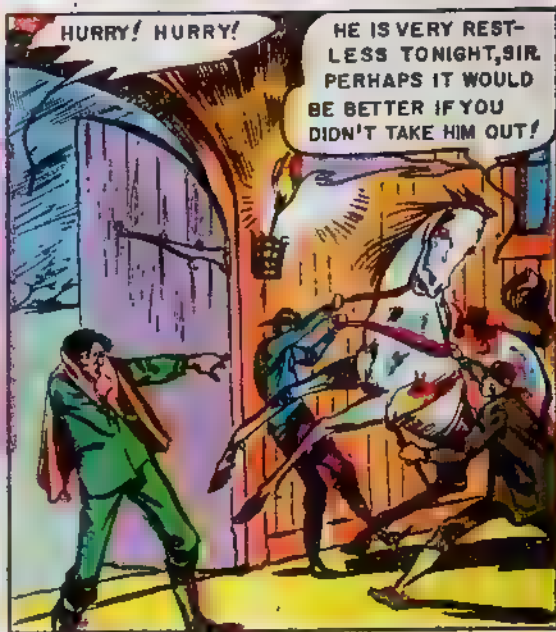


AND IT WAS TRUE. IN THE DEAD OF NIGHT, OR THE HEAT OF SUN, HE COULD BE SEEN ASTRIDE THE MONSTROUS ANIMAL...



HURRY! HURRY!

HE IS VERY RESTLESS TONIGHT, SIR. PERHAPS IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU DIDN'T TAKE HIM OUT!



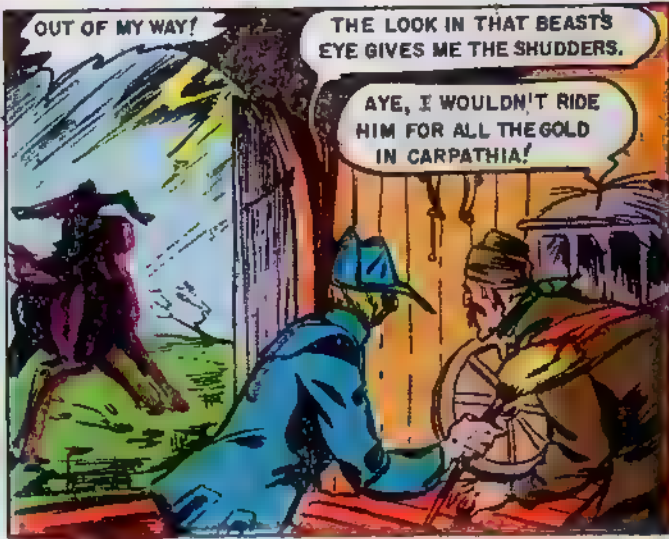
NONSENSE! THERE IS NO HORSE IN THIS WORLD THAT I CAN'T CONTROL!

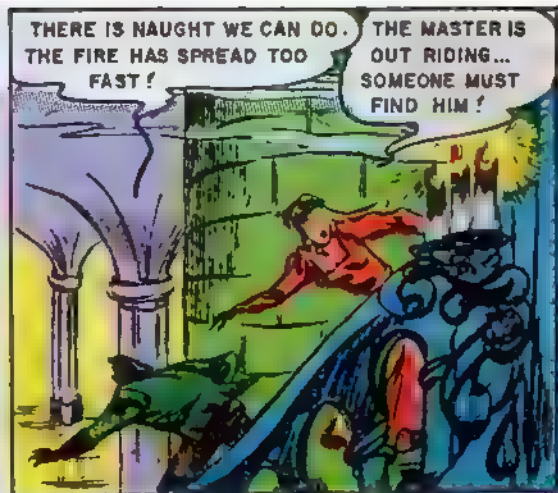
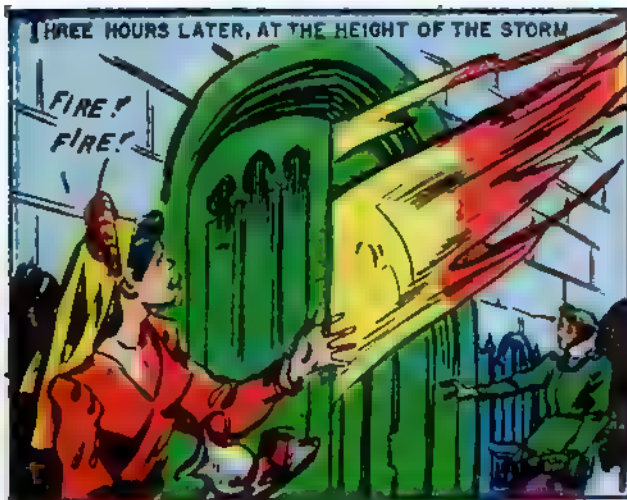


OUT OF MY WAY!

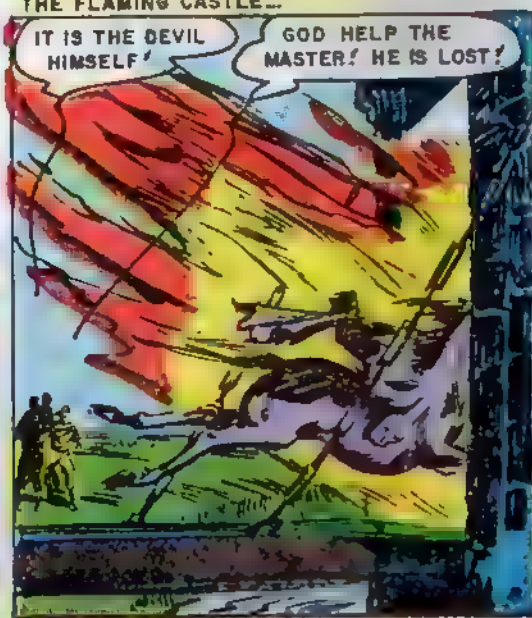
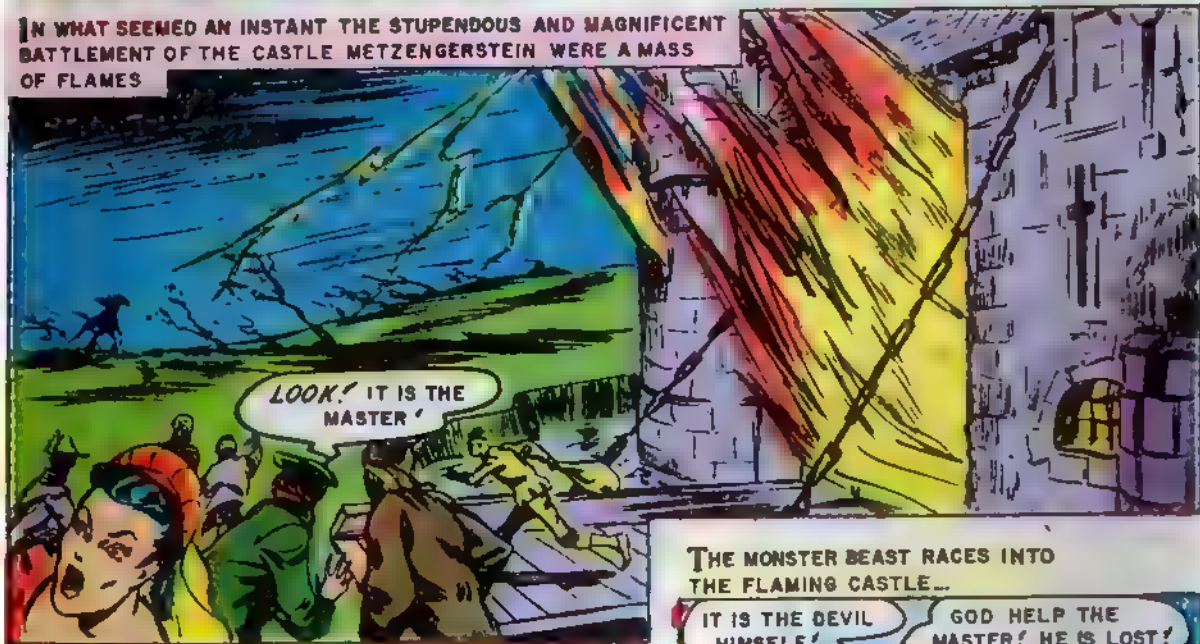
THE LOOK IN THAT BEAST'S EYE GIVES ME THE SHUDDERS.

AYE, I WOULDN'T RIDE HIM FOR ALL THE GOLD IN CARPATHIA!

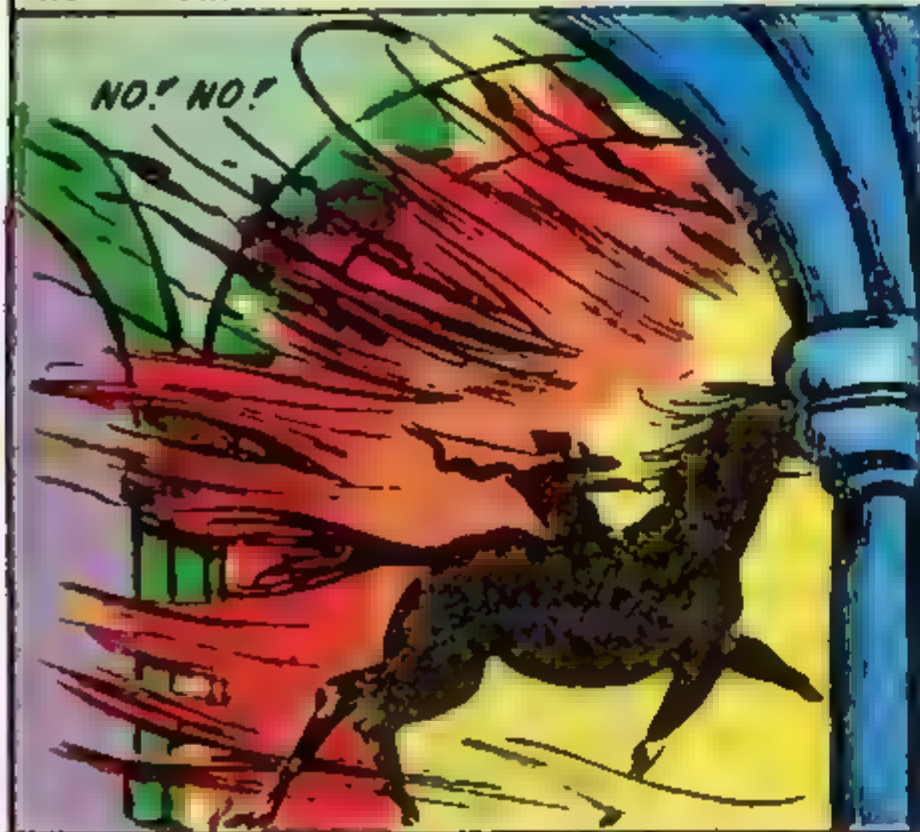




IN WHAT SEEMED AN INSTANT THE STUPENDOUS AND MAGNIFICENT BATTLEMENT OF THE CASTLE METZENGERSTEIN WERE A MASS OF FLAMES

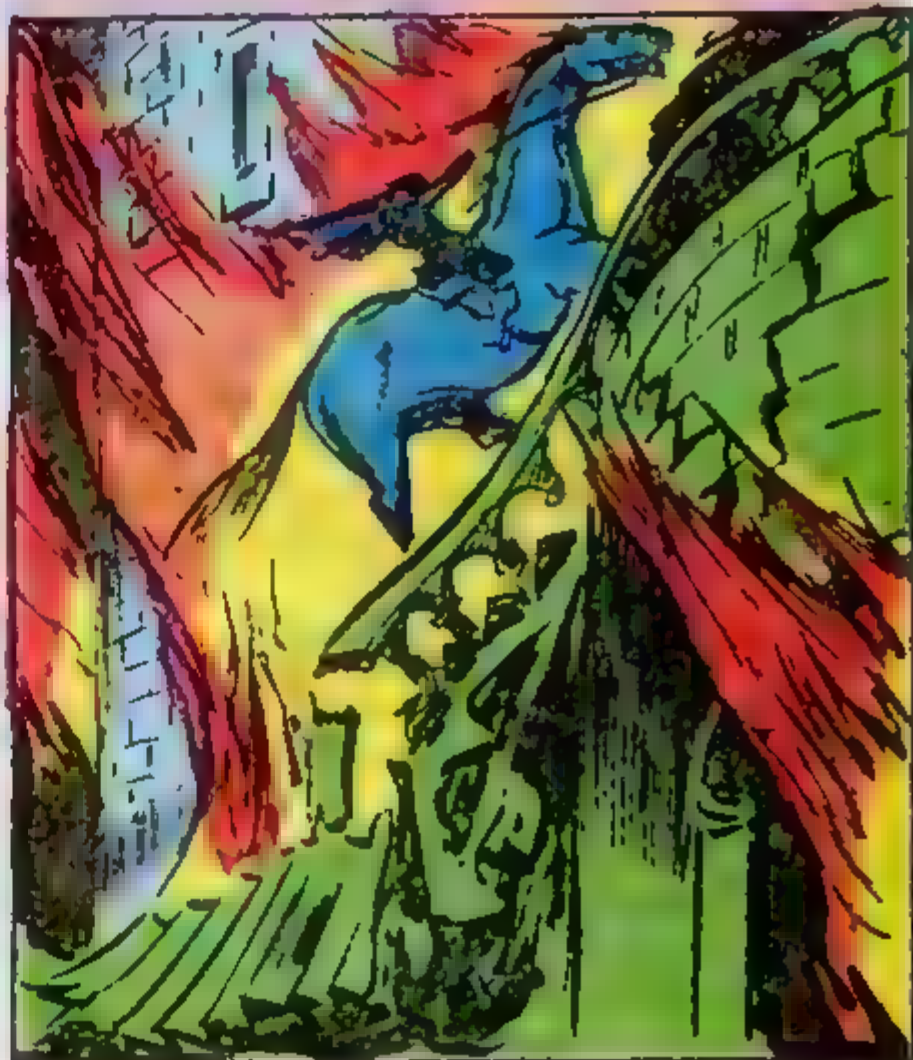


THE TERRIFIED FREDERIK TRYs TO STOP THE HEAD-
LONG FLIGHT OF THE ACCURSED STALLION, BUT TO
NO AVAIL ...



NO! NO!

THEN WITH A LAST GIGANTIC BURST OF ENERGY,
THE MONSTROUS HORSE CLATTERS UP THE TOTTER-
ING STAIRCASE OF THE CASTLE TO DISAPPEAR IN
THE AWFUL FLAMES...



AT THAT MOMENT THE FURY OF THE TEMPEST DIED AWAY AND IN THE SUPERNATURAL GLARE OF
WHITE HOT FLAMES, THERE COULD BE SEEN OVER THE DYING BATTLEMENTS A DISTANT COLOSSAL
FIGURE. THE CURSE OF METZINGERSTEIN HAD BEEN FULFILLED...

THE END...

The Creeping Hand



EVIL AND MALIGNANT, WITHERED AND DEAD, THE **HAND** WAS YET ALIVE. IT BROUGHT GREER FALLON THE SUCCESS HE YEARNED FOR, BUT AT A PRICE THAT WAS SET BY THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS HIMSELF. A PRICE NO HUMAN SOUL COULD AFFORD TO PAY...

OUTSIDE A NEW YORK NIGHT CLUB AS GREER FALLON WATCHES THE GIRL HE LOVES WITH ANOTHER MAN...

I'M HAVING A WONDERFUL TIME, TED. IT'S SO MUCH FUN!

SHE THREW ME OVER BECAUSE I WASN'T A SUCCESSFUL PAINTER. SHE TOLD ME I WAS A **NOBODY**.

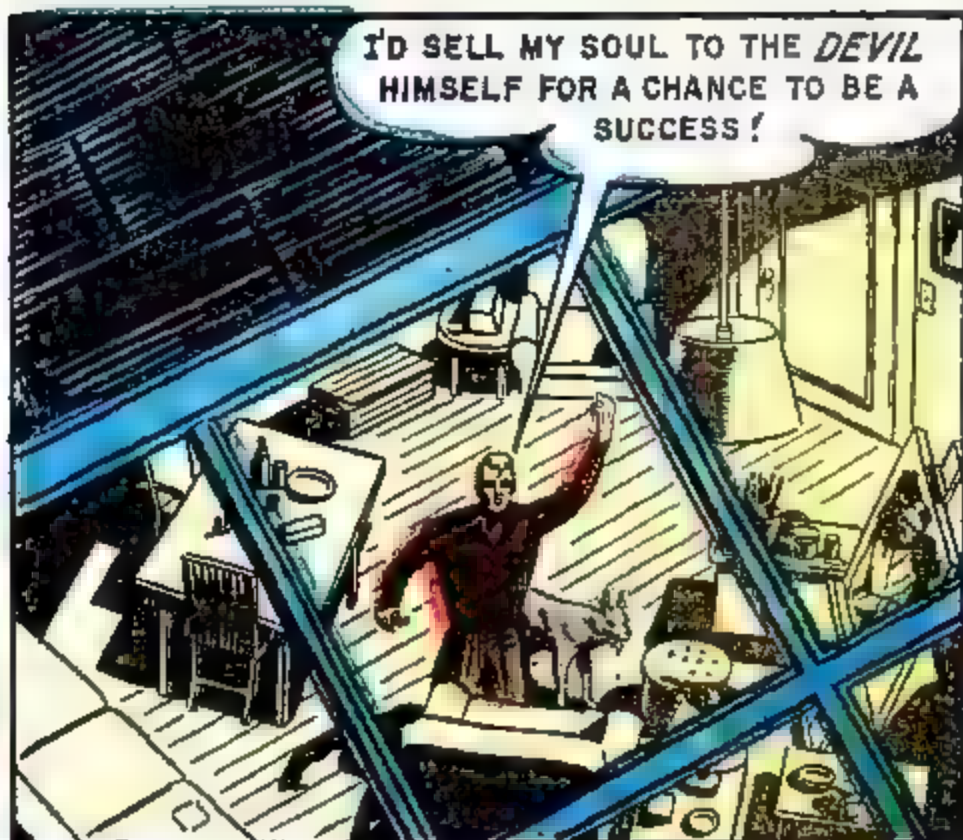


SOMEDAY I'LL SHOW HER. SHE'LL SEE WHAT A **NOBODY** CAN DO. SHE'LL FIND OUT WHAT A SUCCESS I'LL BE!



LATER, AT GREER'S BARREN STUDIO AS HE BROODS OVER HIS FAILURE...

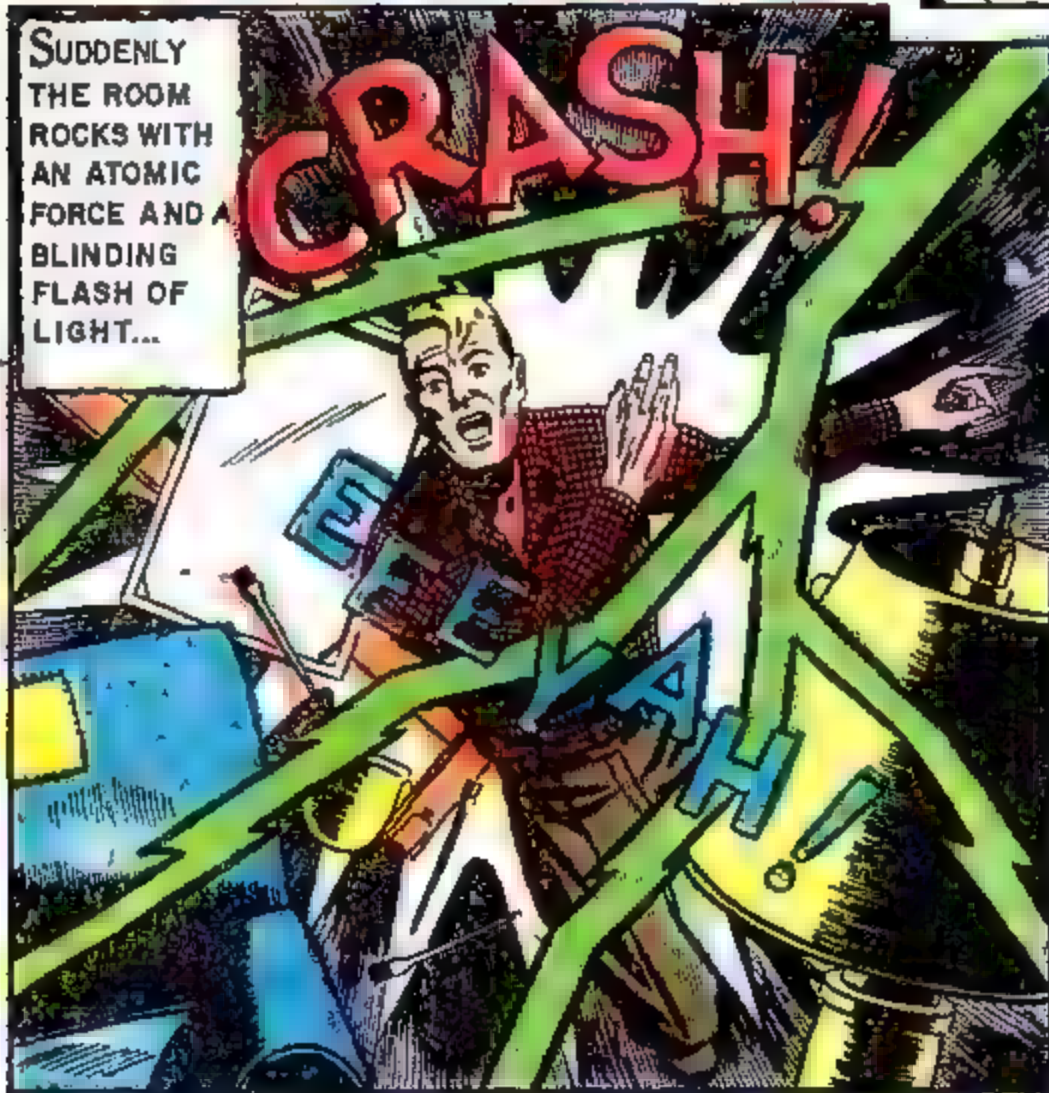
WHY CAN'T I PAINT? WHY DON'T I HAVE GREAT TALENT?



I'D SELL MY SOUL TO THE *DEVIL* HIMSELF FOR A CHANCE TO BE A SUCCESS!

SUDDENLY THE ROOM ROCKS WITH AN ATOMIC FORCE AND A BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHT...

CRASH!!



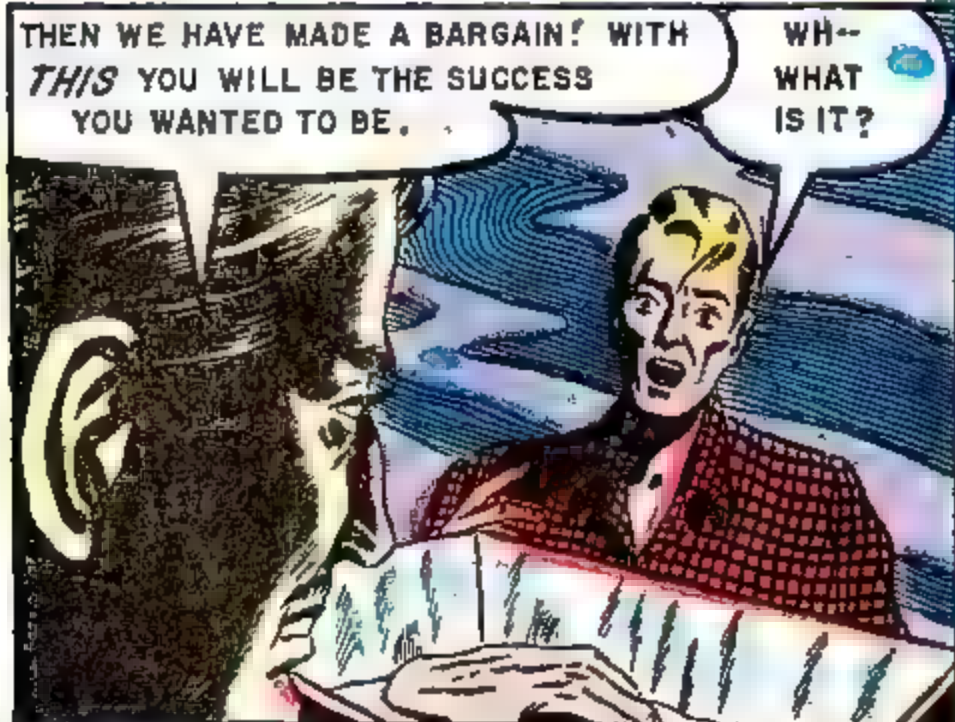
I HEARD YOU, GREER FALLON. DID YOU MEAN WHAT YOU SAID? WOULD YOU REALLY SELL YOUR SOUL FOR SUCCESS?

I... I... YES, I WOULD...!

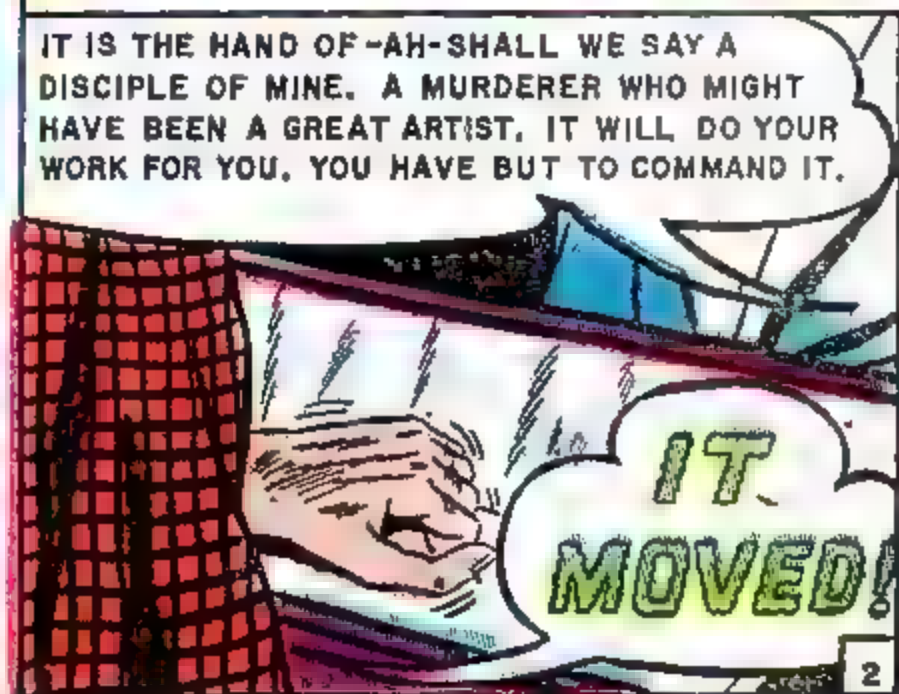


THEN WE HAVE MADE A BARGAIN! WITH *THIS* YOU WILL BE THE SUCCESS YOU WANTED TO BE.

WH-- WHAT IS IT?



IT IS THE HAND OF -AH-SHALL WE SAY A DISCIPLE OF MINE. A MURDERER WHO MIGHT HAVE BEEN A GREAT ARTIST, IT WILL DO YOUR WORK FOR YOU. YOU HAVE BUT TO COMMAND IT.



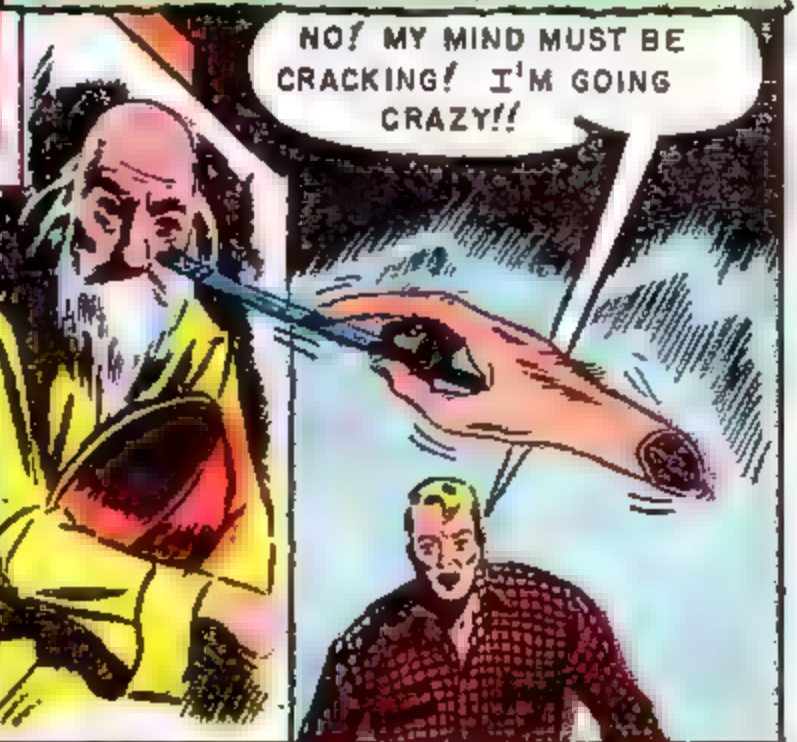


YES, IT MOVED! HA HA HAHA!
USE IT WELL! HA HA HA HA!
GOODBY!

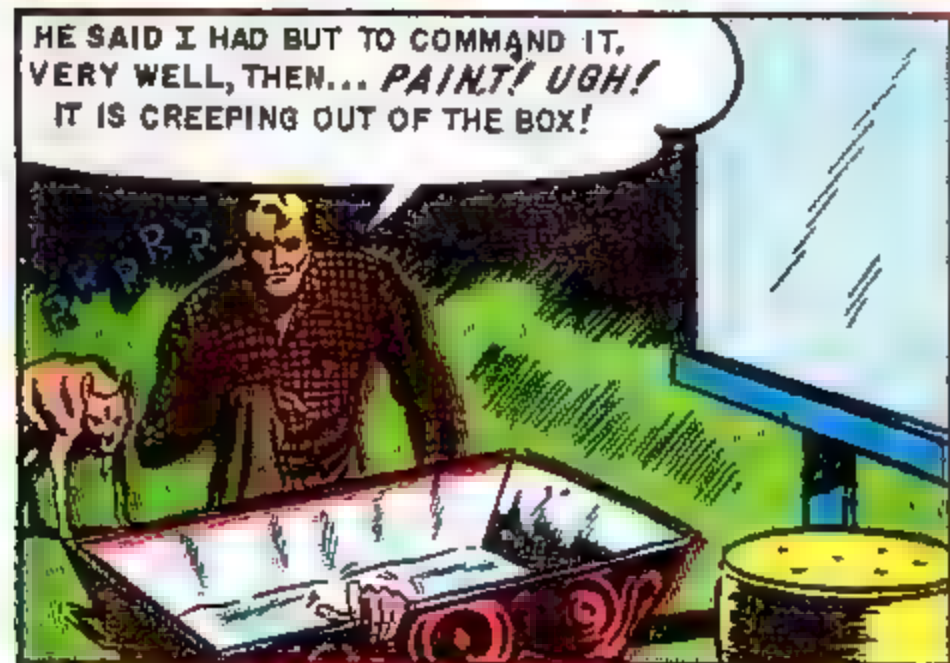


I MUST BE MAD... SUFFERING
FROM HALUCINATIONS! YET,
THERE /T IS!

THEN, AS IF GUIDED BY AN UNSEEN ARM, THE
HIDEOUS HAND MOVES TO GREER'S EASEL AND
BEGINS TO PAINT A PICTURE...

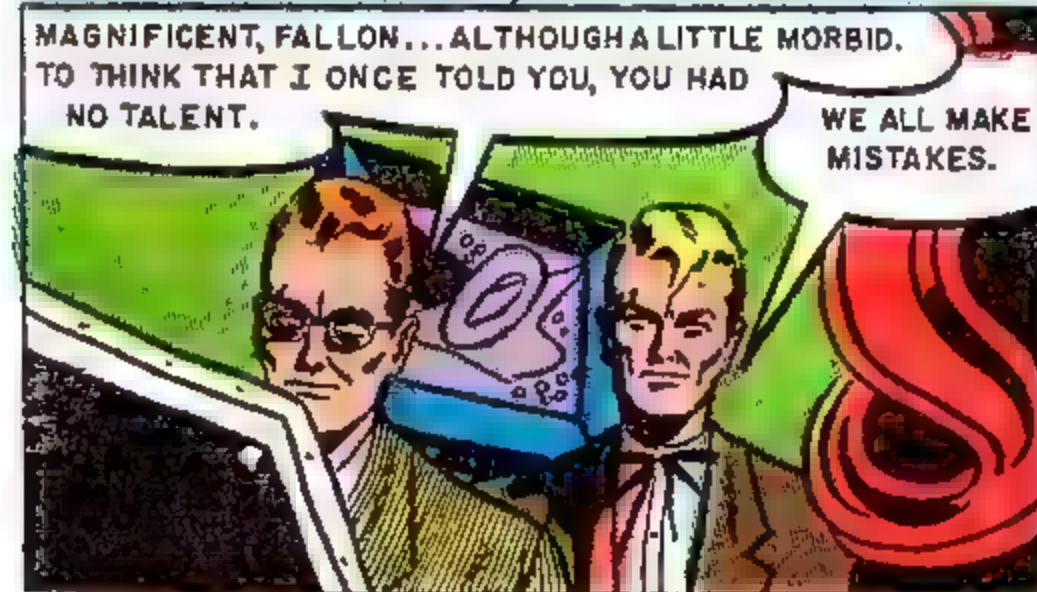


NO! MY MIND MUST BE
CRACKING! I'M GOING
CRAZY!!



HE SAID I HAD BUT TO COMMAND IT.
VERY WELL, THEN... *PAINT!* UGH!
IT IS CREEPING OUT OF THE BOX!

BUT IT IS *REAL!* IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS FALLON'S PAINT-
INGS, CREATED BY THE *HAND*, ARE IN WIDE DEMAND...



MAGNIFICENT, FALLON... ALTHOUGH A LITTLE MORBID.
TO THINK THAT I ONCE TOLD YOU, YOU HAD
NO TALENT.

WE ALL MAKE
MISTAKES.

WELL, HERE IS YOUR CHECK. AS SOON AS YOU
ARE READY I CAN COMMISSION YOU TO DO
ANOTHER FOR FIVE THOUSAND.



THANK YOU. IT'S
AS GOOD AS DONE.

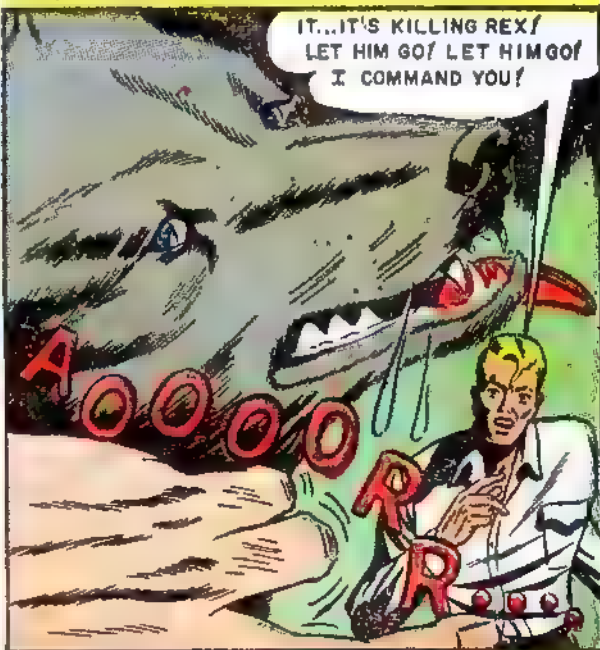
THAT
AFTER-
NOON AT
THE STUDIO.

YOU'VE REALLY BROUGHT
ME SUCCESS. TONIGHT I'LL GO
TO MARY. SHE CAN'T TURN
ME DOWN NOW... **REX! NO!**
YOU'LL DESTROY IT!



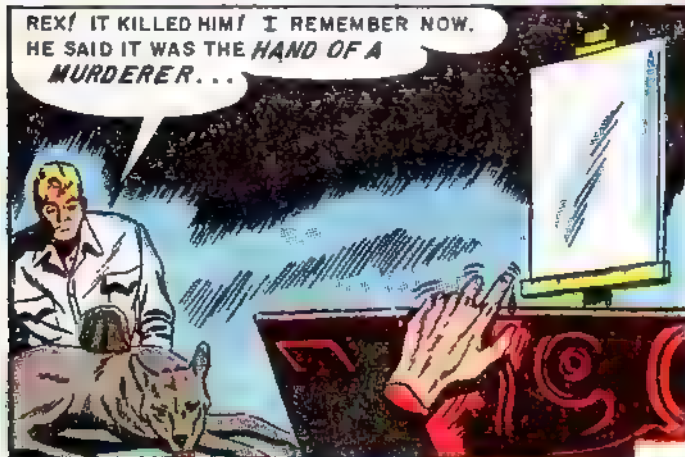
BUT FALLON'S FEARS ARE GROUNDLESS. IN A SECOND
THE EVIL HAND HAS THE DOG BY THE THROAT...

IT...IT'S KILLING REX!
LET HIM GO! LET HIM GO!
I COMMAND YOU!



BUT IT IS TOO LATE! THE DOG IS ALREADY DEAD...

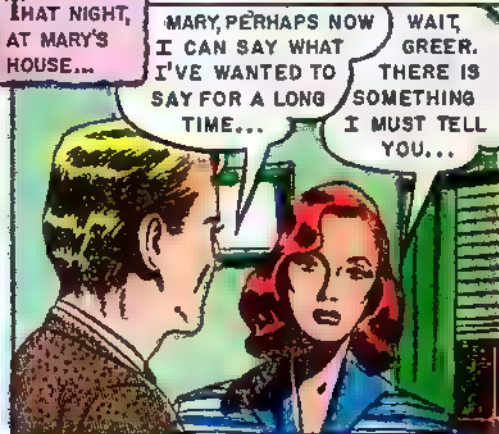
REX! IT KILLED HIM! I REMEMBER NOW.
HE SAID IT WAS THE **HAND OF A
MURDERER...**



THAT NIGHT,
AT MARY'S
HOUSE...

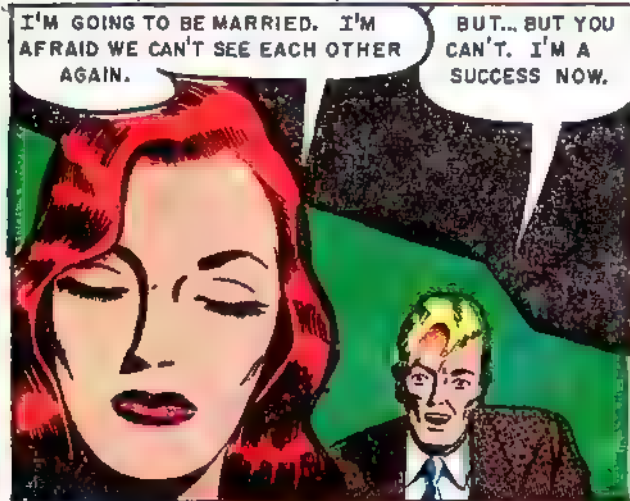
MARY, PERHAPS NOW
I CAN SAY WHAT
I'VE WANTED TO
SAY FOR A LONG
TIME...

WAIT,
GREER.
THERE IS
SOMETHING
I MUST TELL
YOU...



I'M GOING TO BE MARRIED. I'M
AFRAID WE CAN'T SEE EACH OTHER
AGAIN.

BUT... BUT YOU
CAN'T. I'M A
SUCCESS NOW.



THAT DOESN'T MATTER. I LOVE TOM AND I
DON'T LOVE YOU. I COULD NEVER LOVE YOU.

BUT YOU SAID IT
WAS BECAUSE I
WASN'T A SUCCESS.





YOU DO LOVE ME! YOU DO!
I KNOW YOU DO!

LET ME GO!
LET ME GO!



I NEVER LOVED YOU. I
ONLY PITIED YOU! YOU WERE
SO DOWN AND OUT, SO FRIENDLESS.

WH--
WHAT...?



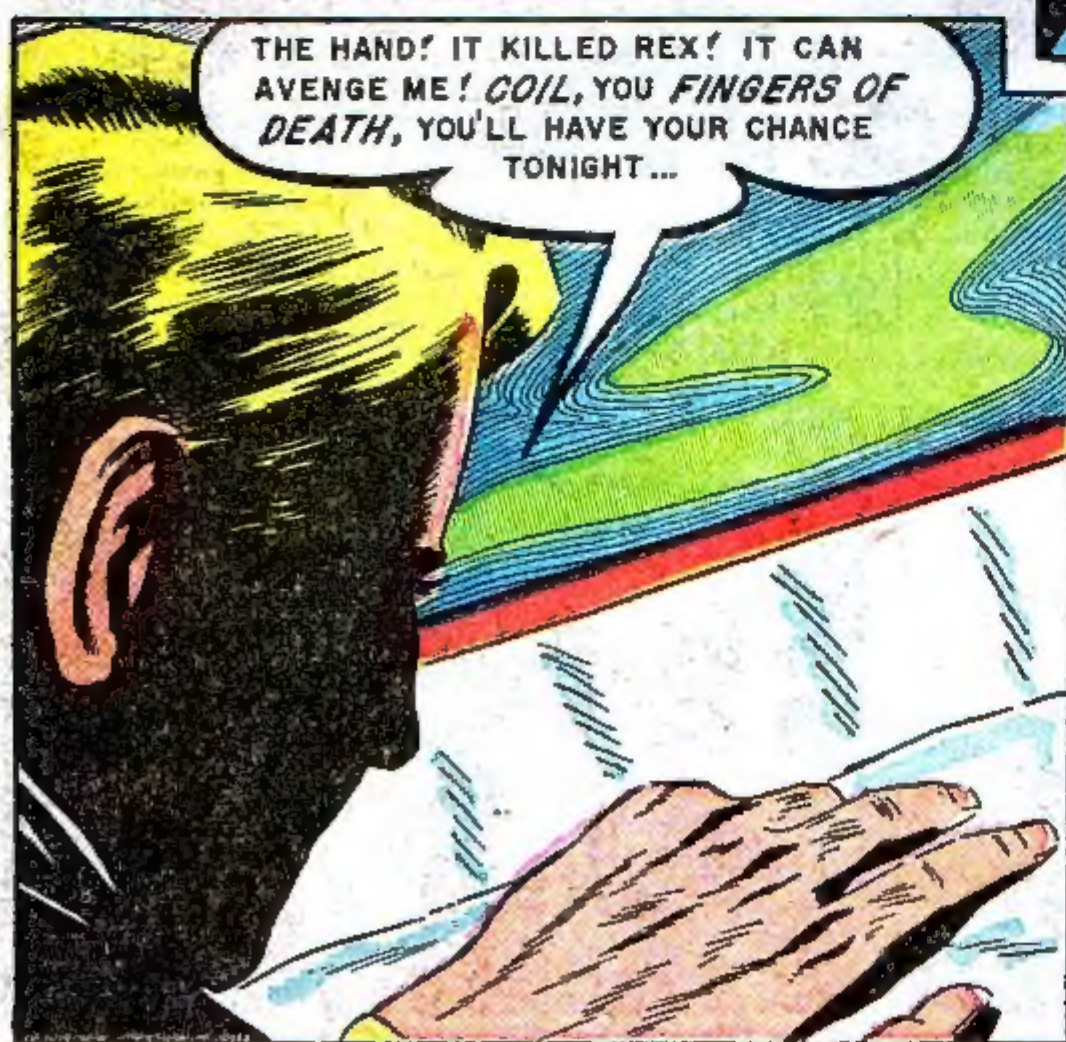
NOW, WILL YOU PLEASE
GO!

I'LL GO, BUT
YOU'LL BE
SORRY...

BACK AT
HIS STUDIO
GREER
PACES
BACK AND
FORTH, EVIL
THOUGHTS
TUMBLING
THROUGH
HIS BRAIN...



SHE WON'T MARRY THAT
PLAYBOY! IF I CAN'T HAVE
HER, NO ONE WILL!



THE HAND! IT KILLED REX! IT CAN
AVENGE ME! COIL, YOU *FINGERS OF
DEATH*, YOU'LL HAVE YOUR CHANCE
TONIGHT...



THE PERFECT MURDER! ALL
THEY'LL FIND WILL BE THE
FINGER PRINTS FROM THE
HAND OF A DEAD MAN!
HA, HA, HA, HA,!

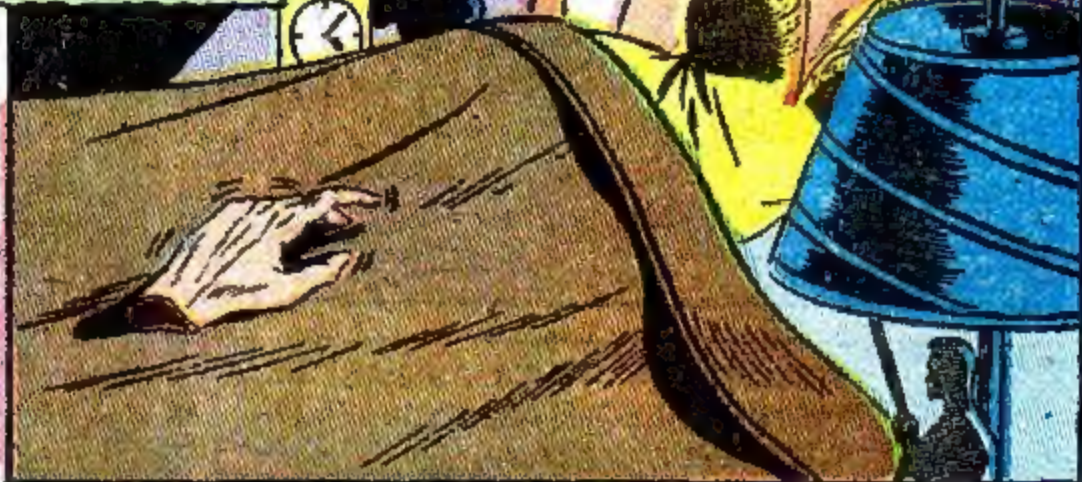
LATER THAT NIGHT GREER WATCHES THE MALIGNANT HAND AS IT CREEPS UP THE WALL OF MARY'S HOUSE STRAIGHT FOR HER BEDROOM WINDOW...

GO, HAND OF EVIL. GO AND KILL! I COMMAND YOU!



INTO THE WINDOW AND ONTO THE GIRL'S BED THE HAND CREEPS, ITS FINGERS WRITHING IN EVIL EXPECTATION...

THERE'S SOMEONE HERE! WHO IS IT? **HELP!**



THEN LIKE A FLASH, IT IS ON HER AND ITS CLAW-LIKE FINGERS TIGHTEN ABOUT HER THROAT...



COLDLY, HORRIBLY, THE AWFUL HAND DOES GREER'S BIDDING...



A MOMENT LATER IT CREEPS DOWN THE WALL AND BACK TO ITS VELVET-LINED RESTING PLACE...

IT IS DONE! COME, WE RETURN HOME.



PITY ME, WILL SHE? NOW *SHE* IS THE ONE TO BE PITIED.



BUT BACK AT HIS STUDIO GREER DOES BEGIN TO PITY MARY AND SLOWLY, AS HIS RAGE DIES, REMORSE SETS IN...

WHAT HAVE I DONE? I KILLED THE ONLY ONE I EVER LOVED.



WELL, YOU'LL NEVER DO EVIL AGAIN! I'LL DESTROY YOU FOR ALL TIME!



LIKE AN ARROW SPEEDING TO A TARGET, IT RACES FOR HIS THROAT AS THE STENCH OF BURNING FLESH FILLS THE ROOM...



IT'S YOUR FAULT! YOU PUT THOSE IDEAS IN MY HEAD! YOU... THE HAND OF A MURDERER!



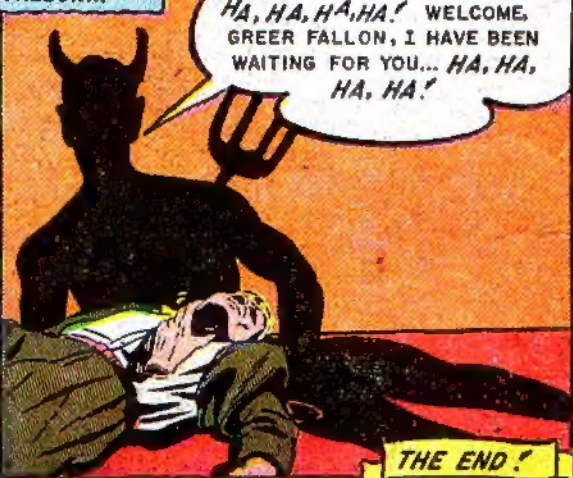
LIKE A MAD THING, THE GRUESOME RELIC LEAPS INTO THE FLAMES AND THEN, ON FIRE, HEADS STRAIGHT FOR GREER...

IT GOT OUT!



IT'S FINGERS TIGHTEN LIKE BANDS OF STEEL AND SLOWLY LIFE EBBS FROM THE BODY OF GREER FALLON...

HA, HA, HA, HA! WELCOME, GREER FALLON, I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU... HA, HA, HA, HA!



THE END!

Here's the Greatest **BILFOLD BARGAIN** in all America!

3 BIG VALUES in ONE

All for only
\$2.98

- ★ SMART ZIPPER LEATHER BILFOLD AND-PASS CASE
- ★ BUILT-IN CHANGE PURSE
- ★ Identification Key Tag

With Your Name, Address
City and State
Hand Engraved!

It "Zips" All the Way Around



OPEN
VIEW

Clear-View
CELLULOID
WINDOWS

Exteriors Of
These Bifolds
Are Made Of
Such Beautiful
Leathers As SADDLE,
MOROCCO and CALFSKIN!

Complete With
**PASS CASE
COIN PURSE
and
CURRENCY
COMPARTMENT**

ZIPPERS ARE BACK!!

At Last! Here's the Bifold you've been waiting for since Pearl Harbor. Here's the Bifold most wanted by men everywhere—now for the first time offered at a price that's sensationally low for a Bifold of such unmistakable fine quality. You've never known real Bifold satisfaction until you've used this "Zip-all-around" DeLuxe Pass Case Bifold with its Built-in Change Purse and roomy Currency Compartment. When closed it's as neat and safe a Bifold as you've ever seen. Shake it all you want and nothing can fall out. Slips easily into your back pocket or coat and will not bulge out of shape. Yet when you want to get at it, the Bifold "Zips open all the way"—so that everything you carry is in full plain view, ready for instant use. No guess-work. No fumbling into tight corners to get at valuables.

Here without a doubt is the last word in a real man's Bifold. A veritable storehouse for everything a man likes to carry with him—his currency, his change, his credit and membership cards, his personal identification. Along with the all around Zipper Bifold and Change Purse, we also include a hand engraved Identification Key Tag as shown. You get the 3 Big Values in one as described all for only \$2.98. But hurry. **SEND NO MONEY.** Just rush your order on the handy coupon below today. On arrival, pay postman only \$2.98 plus 20% tax and postage with understanding that if this isn't the greatest Bifold Bargain you've ever seen, you can return in 10 days for full refund.

CLOSED
VIEW

Hand Engraved Identification Key Tag
Included With Every Zipper Bifold!



We also send you this beautiful 3-color Identification key tag, hand engraved with your full name, address, city and state. It's the ideal key tag. Provides ample room for all your keys with your permanent identification for reference in case of loss.

SEND NO MONEY—RUSH THIS COUPON TODAY!

ILLINOIS MERCHANDISE MART, Dept. 4372
500 N. Dearborn St., Chicago 10, Ill.

☐ Please rush me the "All-around" Zipper Pass Case Bifold with Built-in Change Purse and hand engraved Identification Key Tag. The arrival I will pay postman only \$2.98 plus 20% Federal Tax and two extra postage and C.O.D. charges. It is understood that if I am not positively satisfied and delighted in every way I can return the bifold within 10 days for full refund.

MY FULL NAME _____

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____

☐ To save shipping charges I am enclosing in advance \$2.98 plus 20% Federal Tax and two extra postage and C.O.D. charges. Please ship my Bifold immediately after all postage charges prepaid.